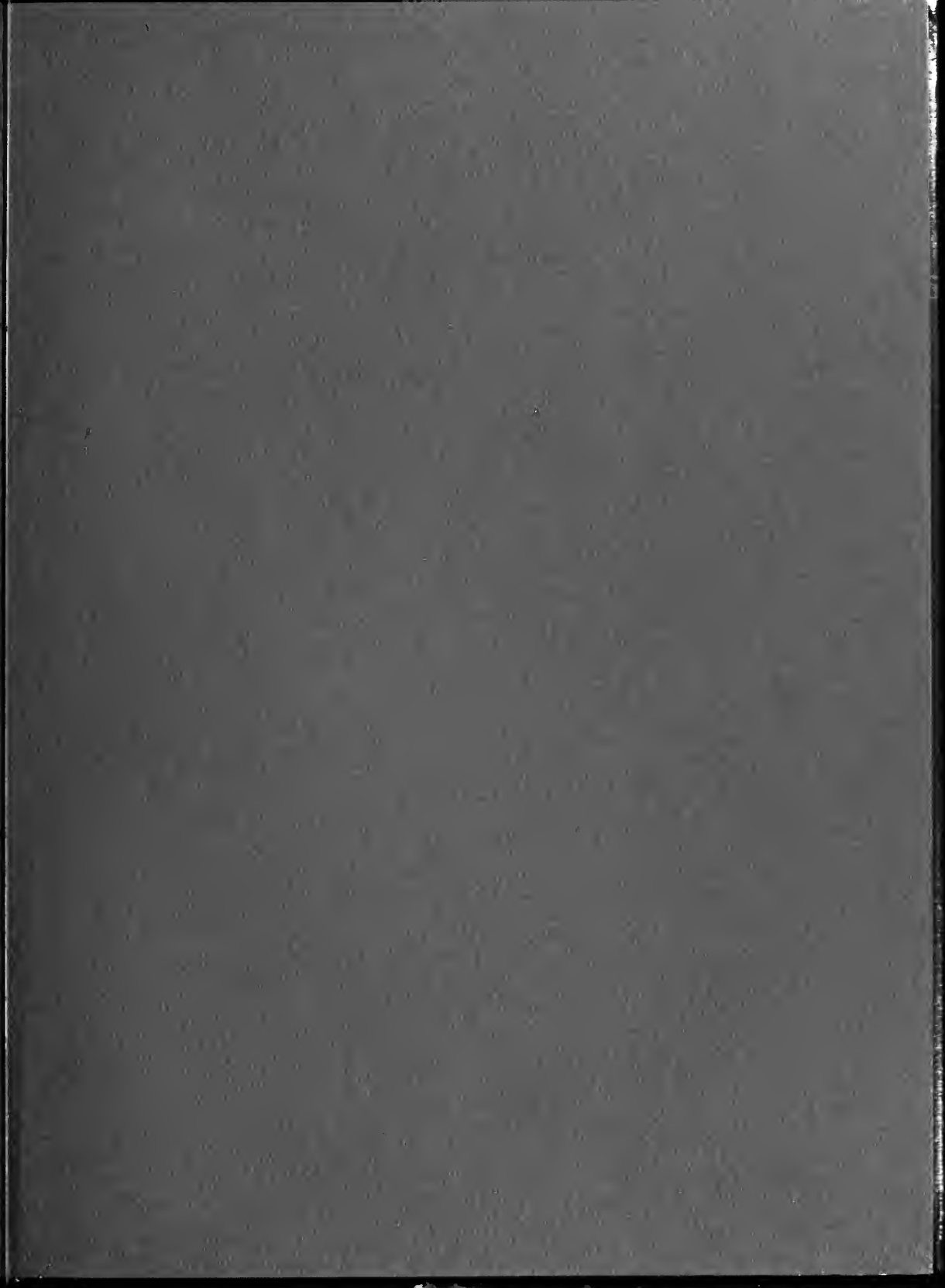
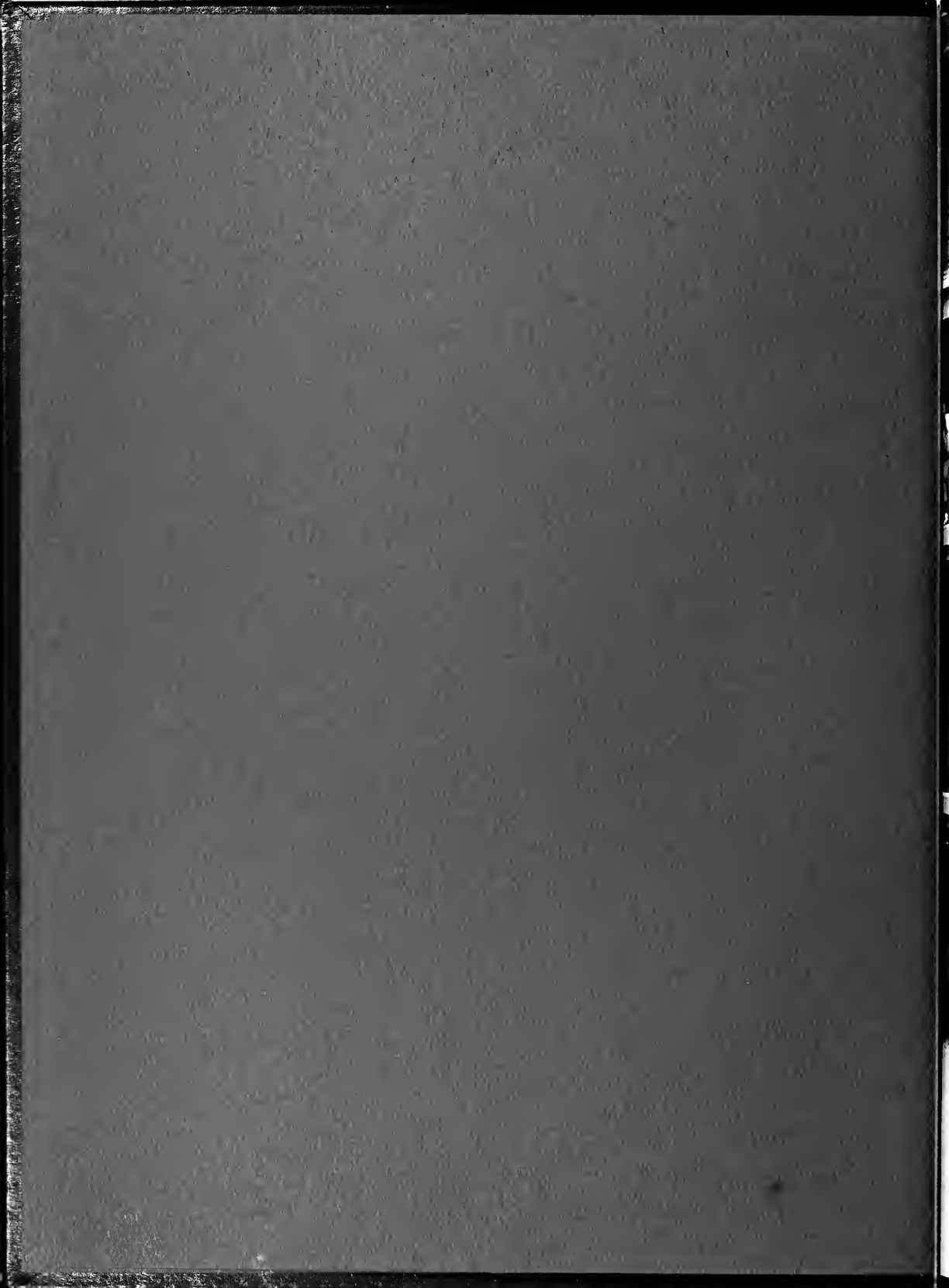


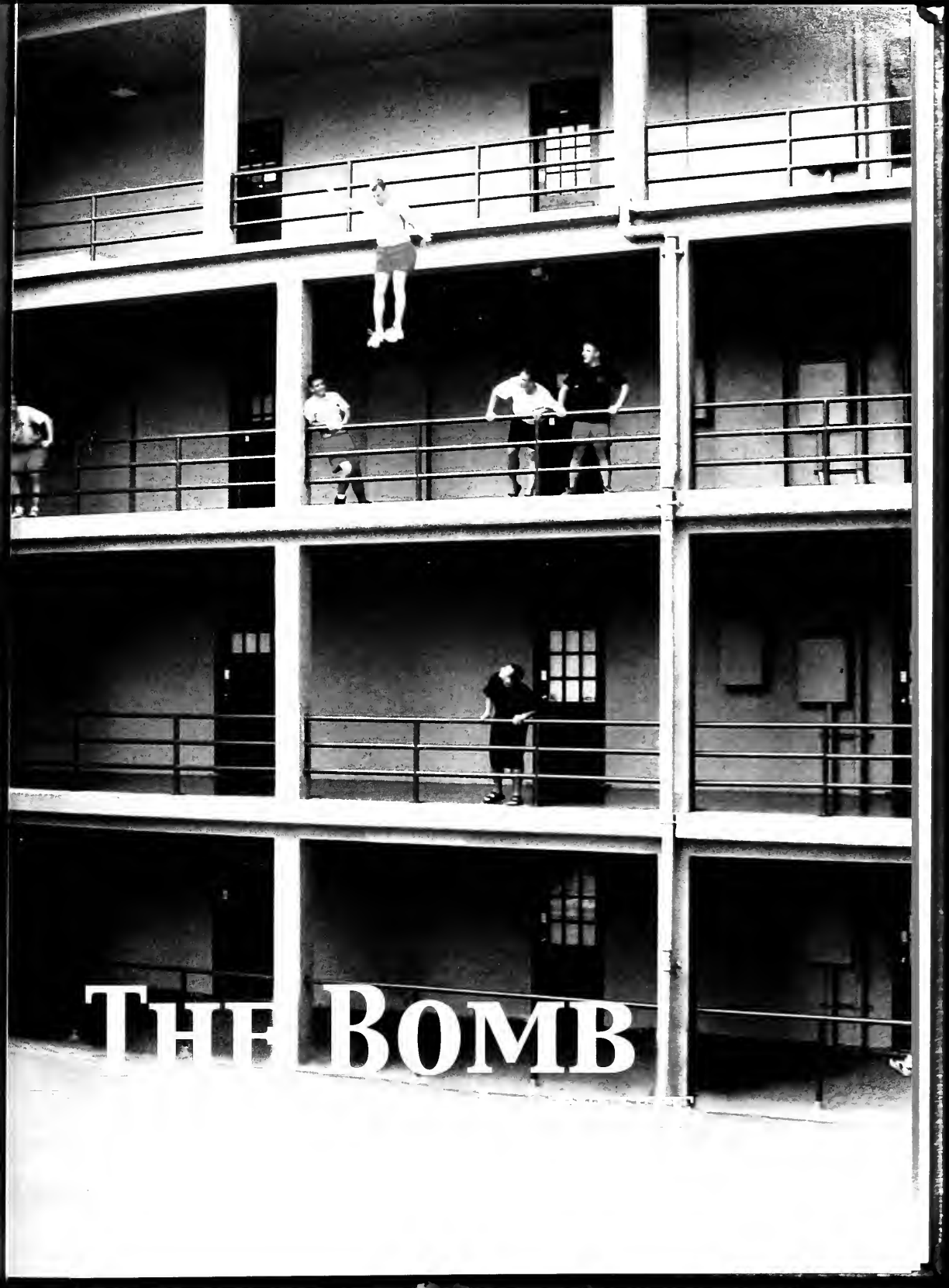


1910 Bomb










THE BOMB



Virginia Military Institute's heart does not lie in the offices of Smith Hall. The tradition that makes it beat is not in the orders from the Commandant's office, or even in the sheepskins that adorn the walls of our graduates.



It's the connection between classmates, a connection that's power is all but unknown in any institution, military or otherwise.



IT'S THE BROTHER RAT BOND.



At VMI, the covenant is between a cadet and his tribe, not administrative mechanisms.



The Brother Rat bond is self-policing, paying no heed to any other institution at VMI,



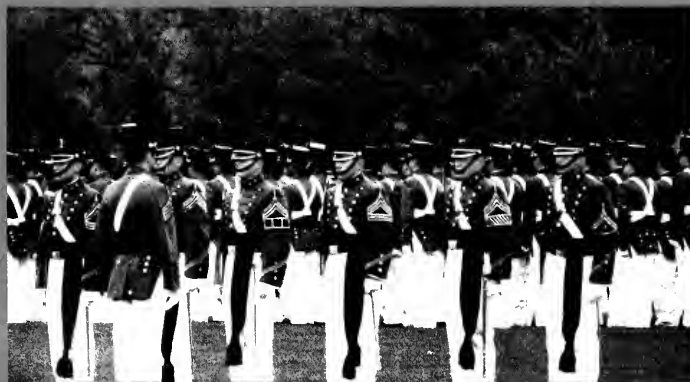
HONOR COURT
BOMB STAFF

EXCEPT THE HONOR CODE.

That is one of the school's greatest strengths — **THE BR CONNECTION** — it puts the citizen in citizen soldier.



Decisions are made by our communities, a collective will that transcends the sometime shallow and meaningless chevrons on sleeves,



or faceless edicts from the blotters of mahogany desks.



IN THE BEGINNING, one is a nameless, faceless, bald scurrier racing the stoops, praying for anonymity. Not even allowed to address oneself as a member of a class, one's fate is held in the collective,



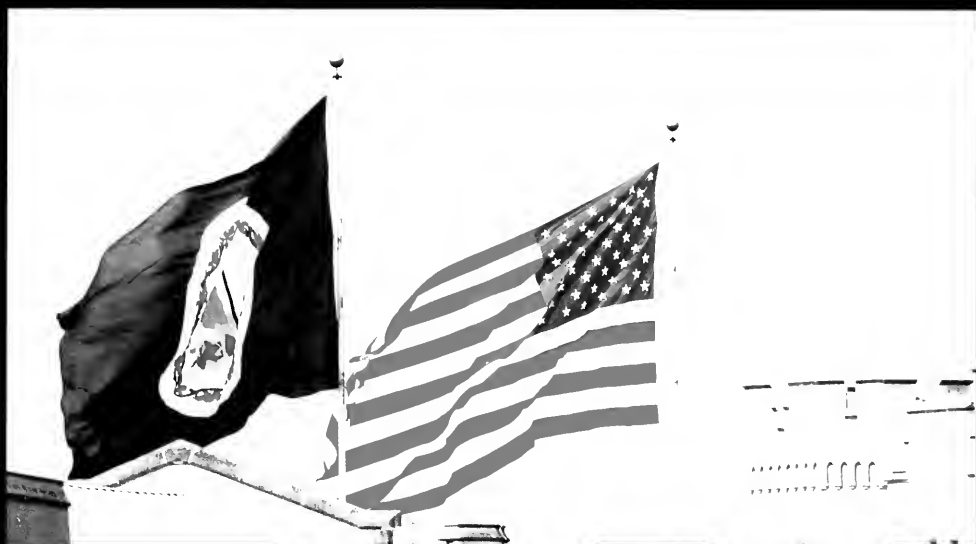
the mass that must develop a sense of one another and claw their way to mutual identification. It's a hard fought initiation.



We're small. There are about 180,000 of our brethren who have left the "I" with a diploma in our entire history. Compared to the giant state schools that dwarf our 200-odd new graduates a year by a power of 10, we do not flood the world with our grads, just our reputation.



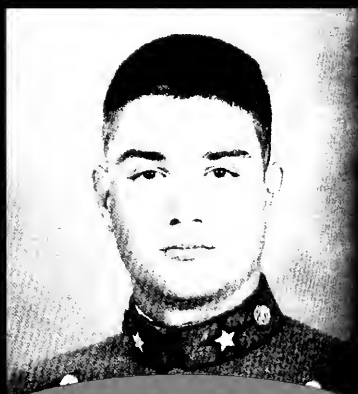
Under several standards and services we are a part of that connection bound to one another. From New Market to the forests of Belleau Wood, we are bound.



To men like Capt. John R. Teal and 1st Lt. Joshua Hurley, who are the most recent of the brotherhood to fall in defense of our nation, we are bound. They are indeed



objects of honest pride. To their lives and their memory, we are bound. To all of the men and women that share in our pain and triumph under the shadow of our beige Sparta, we are bound.



In Memorium
1LT Joshua Hurley '01



In Memorium
CAPT John Teal '94

2004 BOMB

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HONOR COURT



Back Row, Assistant Prosecutors: William DeShazor, Jason Downs, Christopher Perry, Carlton Smith, Lawton Way, William Ray **Front Row:** Christian DeShazor - Prosecutor, Roderick James - Prosecutor, Dave Poldiak - President, Edward Chen - Vice President, Will Burt - Vice President for Investigation, Noah Diehl - Vice President for Investigation.

Brother Rats, do not think that our duty as owners and protectors of the Code ceases with graduation. This is far from the truth. As VMI graduates, we assume the role of ambassadors of the Honor Code. It is time to carry our Code of honor and integrity into a society that lacks these fundamental principles. To cease practice of the lessons learned under our Code is to waste all the values it has taught us.

Your Court, those who you have entrusted to serve and protect your Code, has served you well. We have sacrificed a large portion of all aspects of our lives to ensure the well being of our Code. Court members yield great power, especially holding one of the big three positions. To some, this power breeds fear. I have noticed, and I know other members have as well, that I have lost touch with some of my friends because of my position. Ignorance is to blame. This lack of knowledge of how our Code works is the only explanation. The true power of the Court lies within the seven members who comprise an impartially selected jury and ultimately decide if the actions of an accused Cadet were honorable or dishonorable. It is on this most important of days that these seven individuals, from the highest ranker to the lowest fourth class private, carry more responsibility than any other Cadet or Court member. Sitting on a jury is the most important duty a Cadet will ever encounter.

The Court will continue to sacrifice their time and concentrate their efforts for the good of the Code. It is the hope of the Court that the push for education and understanding of how your Code works strengthens the underlying bonds created by it.

I hope my Brother Rats have lived honorably through this four-year period. It is our duty to carry our values into society. The classes below us will now continue and build on the changes and strides that our Class and your Court has made to strengthen our most precious asset of VMI, our Honor Code.

Dave Poldiak
Honor Court President

GENERAL COMMITTEE



First Class: Jason Quash - President, Tim Price - Vice President, Geoff Goldsmith - Historian; **Second Class:** Robert Oaks - President, Benjamin King - Vice President, Ian Dunkin - Historian; **Third Class:** Johnathan Glasscock - President, Michael Rasquale - Vice President, Christopher Stolle - Historian.

Four years, four long, yet somehow retrospectively they have seemed short. This may seem like the final letter from the "GC," but in it is not the end at all - it is just the beginning, just the beginning for the Class of 2004. We all anxiously await that day when we no longer have Monday morning inspections, status checks, PTs, confinement and so on - but we will pick up another task with more responsibilities, greater challenges, and greater rewards. Yet no one will leave here the way they came in. We have all changed. We have gained friends, who we will remain close to for the rest of our lives; we have had experiences, which will forever be imbedded in us - all of which are invaluable.

Together we walked the Line Rat year; together we sat in our rooms with Mountain Dew and pizza Third Class year; together we walked through the Ring Second Class year; and together we will walk the Stage. We have seen many of those who matriculated with us take their leave of VMI, some by choice and others more forcibly; but, nevertheless as a class, we have persevered the hardships of the "Institute." We have survived Capt. Whitaker, Maj. Lethers and Maj. Fridley. We have survived the "Step-up" of 2002, and the coming of Gen. Peay. Even though our tenure at the Institute is quickly coming to a close, it does not mean that our legacy ends with it. We have left our mark in the Class of 2007. We have left our mark because we have left this place better than when he found it.

It is time to move on; time to take our leave, but whether we are pursuing a military career or a life in the civilian sector, we will always look on these days with fond memories. So to the Class of 2004 I bid you God speed with all of your endeavors. The greatest moments of our lives are yet to come. Godspeed.

OFFICER OF THE GUARD



The 2004 OGA has set many precedents in upholding its mission. Namely, the prosecution and subsequent dismissal of cadets for Proscribed Sexual Activity as stated in Chapter 2, Section V, G of the Blue Book. Are we proud to have to deal with such a case? Certainly not. However, it is a problem that has plagued barracks for some time. Seven more cadets were either dismissed or suspended before the end of the year. Classes were briefed and the seriousness of the situation was brought before the Corps. - **For the Corps to stay alive, it must willingly embrace certain codes of conduct.**

The OGA also established a Dyke Committee. The DC consists of the GC, plus the OGA President, Vice-President, and Secretary. The committee is designed to hear the cases of First Classmen who cannot have Rats at the beginning of the year. The DC evaluates these cases and strives to make sure that First Classmen deserving of a Rat receive one. At the same time, the DC also hears cases of Dyke System abuse. It functions similarly to the GC and is authorized to hand down penalties to those who abuse the system whether it be Dyke or Rat.

The President is in charge of the entire VMI Dyke System and oversees all Rat Line functions. His inclusion alone within the General Committee creates the Executive Committee. The Vice-President is in charge of running all investigations and serves as Chairman for EC Prosecution. The Secretary maintains all files of the OGA. The Defense Counsel defends to the fullest those brought before the EC, making sure they receive the fairest trial possible. Five Second Classmen, chosen during the 2nd semester, assist in any way needed. **HOWEVER, the backbone of the OGA remains the Representatives.** These are the workmen of the OGA. They monitor Rat Line functions and devote countless hours to investigations. Indeed, they deserve to be commended. A special thanks goes out to Jimmy, Ben, Slava, Sean, Craig, Bryson, Matt, and Gordie.

The OGA is a cadet run association, designed for the Corps and elected by the First Class. It selflessly protects the Corps. **Regardless of what some cadets say or feel about the OGA, the OGA of 2004 cares about VMI and cares about the welfare of all cadets.** Our love for VMI shows in our vigilant upholding of the ideals brought forth by the founders of this great Institution. We can only hope that future OGAs hold themselves to the same level of vigilance and dedication in the years to come.

John Casper
OGA Vice President

RAT DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE



The RDC takes on the daunting mission of transforming, through pain, sweat, tears and mud over 400 young high school graduates into VMI cadets each year. This year's RDC fought through the bureaucratic "red-tape" to soar past last year's restrictions that had hindered the previous ratline. The RDC Officers argued and clung ferociously to our own point on HOW the ratline for OUR rats would be conducted, administered and how the rats would be punished. The numerous confrontations with faculty, Admin and even cadets alike only brought more fuel to the RDC's fire.

It has been the *greatest privilege* and *honor* of my life, as short as it is, to have served the Class of 2004, the Institute and the newest VMI Class, the Class of 2007, as the RDC President for 2003-2004. The 23 First Classmen and 4 Second Classmen that comprised the RDC deserve all the credit and congratulations for this year's *amazing* success. The Class of 2007 can stand tall and be proud of the Ratline that they endured. The RDC for the 2004-2005, not to mention all the following generations of RDC men, will have nothing but success and once again raise the bar that was set by 2004. God Bless the Virginia Military Institute and all the Keydets that make her what she is . . . the Best damn military college . . . period.

Ross Garnett
RDC President

MAJOR TIMOTHY DOWLING

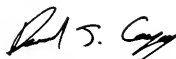


DEDICATION

There has perhaps been no greater friend to cadet publications during my cadetship than Major Timothy Dowling. During most of my tenure as an editor for *The Cadet* and *The Bomb*, we have been basically without a real advisor, but Major Dowling on numerous occasions stepped in to help us. He volunteered to stay up for countless hours on Thursday nights with *The Cadet* staff my third class and second class year, and finally after years of lobbying by both *The Cadet* and *The Bomb*'s leadership, was officially installed as the Cadet Publications Advisor at the end of this year. Major Dowling does bring a journalism background to the job, but his best asset may be the quick understanding he developed of VMI and its cadets. Sure, some cadets complain because he confiscated their cell phone while on OC duty, or he gave them an F on the research paper they wrote the night before, but those cadets lucky enough to really know him see him as a kindred spirit. We are victims of the same machine – it puts us on confinement, and underpays him. We can't get away to visit our girlfriends, and his wife is working far away. We complain, and he complains.

Some professors are content to languish in their offices and classrooms and keep out of cadet's non-academic life. They do not embrace VMI. Major Dowling has most certainly embraced VMI. He has been a TAC, for his three years here and has always been fair, though by no means easy. He has come through in a pinch, sometimes at the last minute, to be the advisor for cadet trips like the Cadet Program Board's ski trip, or the Model Arab League trip to D.C. In the classroom he is the apotheosis of erudition. He challenges cadets and never "dumbs down" the curriculum, which makes him one of the toughest professors in the History Department. He goes much further than any professor has to, and this all too often goes unrecognized.

It is with great pride that I dedicate *The 2004 Bomb* to Major Timothy Dowling for his years of service and friendship.



Daniel J. Cragg
Editor-in-Chief, *The 2004 Bomb*



GENERAL PEAY'S



General Peay addresses the Board of Visitors, distinguished guests and the Corps of Cadets during his inaugural parade.

On July 1, 2004, dawn fell on a new era in Institute history as General J.H. Binford Peay, III assumed command of Post. A dramatic change from the Scholar-Soldier reputation of his predecessor, Lt. Gen. Josiah Bunting, III, General Peay strode through Limits Gates boasting the resume of a hardened soldier. A 1962 graduate of VMI, General Peay served as a battalion commander, member of the Honor Court, and quarterback of the football team during his cadetship. His classmates were so taken with his aptitude for the military arts that they dubbed him "Mr. VMI," a testament personification of the ideals of the Institute. General Peay went on to serve in the Army, earning the Army's second-highest commendation for valor, the Silver Star. After various command and staff positions, Peay assumed command of the "Screamin' Eagles," the renowned 101st Airborne Division. It was during his tenure at the helm of the 101st that General Peay earned a place in the annals of history. During Operation Desert Storm, General Peay led the 101st in the largest air assault in history, successfully securing a large quarter of southern Iraq. General Peay retired in 1997 after serving as the Commanding Officer of U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM). After several years as a CEO in the private sector, General Peay returned to assume a new command, Superintendent of VMI.

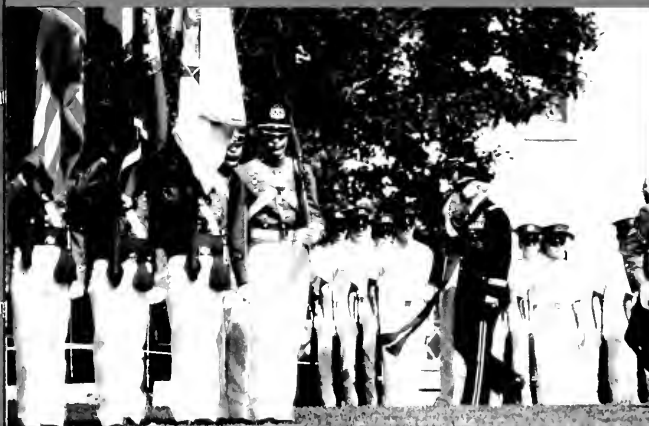
For much of the 1st Semester of the 2003-2004 academic year, General Peay held faculty, staff, and cadets alike in hushed suspense. Change was coming, the VMI family had heard, but what, where, and when was left to the more speculative minds of Post. Several months passed, yet the Smith Hall remained quiet. Finally, on

INAUGURAL PARADE

Founder's Day 2003, General Peay shared his vision for the Institute in a speech to VMI's top donors. VMI would be undergoing a significant physical alteration over the next several years. The Post's Physical Plant was in dire need of new facilities, particularly athletic, and General Peay was prepared to dedicate the time, effort, and money to constructing them. His catchphrase for the lengthy process became "Vision 2039," a reminder that VMI's bicentennial should offer the nation a "better VMI." "Our primary commitment," General Peay told the donors, "is the development of honorable, informed, and energetic young men and women. That will be our focus." The blueprints for General Peay's new Post soon hit the newsstands, with the student newspaper -The Cadet- publishing his vision in print. The Post would expand, with new athletic fields, a new aquatic center, a leadership center, additions to the ROTC building, and a much-needed new parking garage. The corps would expand too, as General Peay announced that he intended to comply with Virginia Governor Mark Warner's request that state schools increase student body size. The Corps would bolster its ranks by almost 200 cadets, jumping from 1300 to 1500. Barracks would undergo historic expansion to accommodate the augmented Corps. And all of these expansions should be completed by 2012.

Despite the bold proposals, the rest of the 2003-2004 year remained quiet. The daily business of the Institute came and went. General Peay busied himself with preparations for the coming construction, continued to steer VMI in the direction he felt best, and found time to invite each and every First Classman to his quarters for dinner. Much appreciated was General Peay's quiet attention to the concerns of the Class of 2004, particularly his willingness to hear out the First Class's grievances concerning the dilapidation of the class system and the Administrative takeover of the ratline, both which had occurred during the previous administration.

Thus closed General Peay's inaugural year as the Institute's 14th Superintendent, as he laid the framework for a revitalized VMI, a blueprint that should lead the Institute through 2039 and beyond.



LEFT: General Peay "troops the line" with Ben Hassell, Regimental Commander. RIGHT: Peay returns to the viewing stand with Sam Witt '58, BOV President

T





THE 2004 HOMECOMING COURT



The 2004 Homecoming King and Queen
Will Simmons, representing F-Troop, and Ms. Samantha Wayne
Ms. Wayne is a nursing student at Wake Tech.





Alpha Company
Benjamin K. Hassell
Ms. Jessica Pierce



Bravo Company
Clark Laster
Ms. Erin Tanner



Charlie Company
David Bruton
Ms. Stephanie Shafer



Delta Company
Christian DeShazor
Ms. Jennifer Miller



Echo Company
Joshua Powers
Ms. Martha Roberts



Golf Company
Drew Barret
Ms. Cristin Blankenship



Hotel Company
Noah Diehl
Ms. Jeanette Cook



Band Company
Brian Gould
Ms. Joanna Brockel

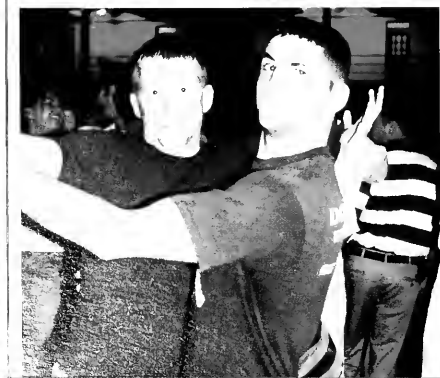


Strain.

FALL BARRACKS CONCERTS

This year the Cadet Program Board brought back that popular phenomenon -- the Barracks concert. Surprisingly, the Barracks did not burn down, and only a few AIs were given out. "I was really happy I could put on these concerts," Cadet Program Board President Daniel J. Cragg said, "especially after no one thought I could convince Colonel Hutchings to allow them."

DAVE MATTHEWS COVER BAND -- 5 SEPTEMBER 2003



Above: Derrick Raymond '04 dances with his girlfriend.
Left: Tony Peters '04 dances with his girlfriend.
Chip Saterlee '04.





ave Bruton '04 in desperate need of a hand check.



When Barracks can no longer support the growing population



CAST IRON FILTER -- 10 OCTOBER 2003



Right: Chris Johnson '04 desperately trying to dance with Nate Joslyn '04. **Below:** John Ginder's '04 sweat stains are about to make him the odd man out.



Right: We all see your arm Dan. **Left:** Even though Texans are frowned upon at VML, cow-girls are more than welcome.



HALLOWEEN

Holidays at VMI are one of the few times that cadets get a chance to express themselves. Halloween, however, should be one of those times when expression should be seriously curbed. This holiday raises a lot of questions — questions that probably shouldn't be answered.



Top Left: Zorro and Richard Simmons patrolling the stoop. **Top Right:** For obvious reasons Backwards Man had a harder ratline than the rest of his brother rats. **Middle Left:** In flagrant defiance of the orange cones, terrorists still made it into barracks. **Bottom Left:** After winning their Supreme Court battle, Hostess products were now allowed to enter the Corps.

THE MIDWINTER FORMAL

This year saw the return of the Midwinter Formal, once an annual tradition, which had disappeared in recent decades because of a decline in cadet interest. The dance was revived by the S-7 staff, at the request of General J.H. Binford Peay, III '62, and it was the only hop this year.

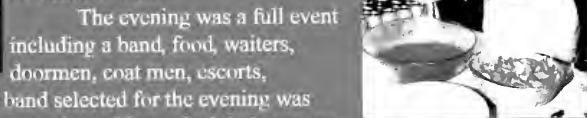
General Peay mentioned an interest in returning to the "classic hop" style when he took office in the summer of 2003, and responsibility for the event fell on Daniel J. Cragg '04, head of the Cadet Program Board and S-7 Captain. "We ended up having a rather large turnout," said Cragg, "I never expected to see about 600 cadets attend."

The evening was a full event including a band, food, waiters, doormen, coat men, escorts,

decorations, and Candid Color was there to take pictures. The band selected for the evening was the Kings of Swing, who played songs starting with a '50's theme and roughly worked their way up through the '60's, '70's and '80's to more modern music.

The formal came near the end of General Peay's first year as Superintendent and fits in with some of the changes he seems to have in mind for VMI, specifically a return to some of the forgotten practices of the Institute. "The formal seemed to fit that more traditional mold which General Peay has been presenting. Ideas are still out there about changes to come, but I think that the Midwinter Formal will be returning as part of his vision for VMI's future," Cragg said.

The formal itself was different from anything current cadets have seen and seems to have been accepted well, especially considering the failure of hops in years past. "Social events used to be popular and fun," Cragg said. "Then somewhere in the past 5-7 years they become less interesting, something broke, and cadets stopped caring. This is bringing back the 'hop' and making something that guys and girls want to go to... Hops as we've known them are dead. Having just a D.J., rats standing around in grey blouse, and two girls from Rockbridge High is gone. I think this year was a success, and next year's S-7 staff will continue with the concerts we've had in barracks and the Midwinter Formal."



GUARD DUTY

The cadet guard team is a tradition that goes all the way back to when Cadet John B. Strange took his post as the first cadet sentinel in November of 1839. Since then, the purpose of the guard team has evolved from protection of the Institute to the maintenance of order and oversight of daily activities.

Rats have the honor and burden of marching endless hours as sentinels and climbing endless stairs to deliver messages. One of the oldest traditions on post, that of the first rat sentinel, continues to take place when the new sentinel is surrounded and covered with sundry unpleasant liquids, and his uniform is torn off of him.

Third class cadets post and supervise sentinels as the corporals of the relief. As orderlies, cadets are forced to deal with hundreds of sappy phone calls from girlfriends, boyfriends, and relatives who leave messages daily.

Along with the coming of Second class year comes the new positions of Sergeant of the Guard, Night Sergeant of the Guard, and Recorder. While Sergeant of the Guard keeps order during the day, the Night Sergeant of the guard watches over the night, striving to find ways to entertain himself during the night hours. The recorder is responsible for recording all of the bones and dealing with a myriad of paperwork.

The most stressful and complicated jobs are reserved for First class cadets. While the Officer of the Guard oversees the guard team in general, it is only the Officer of the Day who is ultimately responsible for the guard team. Most of the time guard shifts come and go with no problems, but sometimes chaos strikes with a rat riot or general Keydet

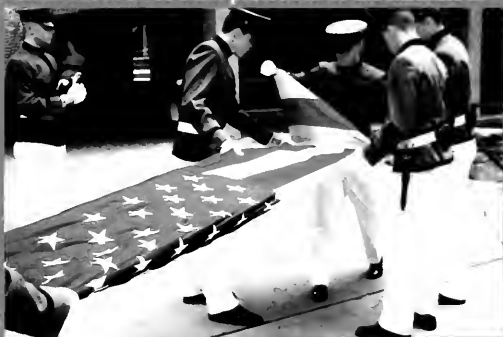
nuttiness, making life more difficult for the only cadet in barracks who is bound by honor to bone.

Cadets strive to make the best out of their 24 hours on guard. Most First classmen go on guard with a close friend or roommate. Together, they spend as much time as possible ensuring that the PX is secure, the television programs are acceptable, the drinks are plentiful, and the ladies remain orderly.

Back in the guard room everyone is checking their appearance, answering the phone, watching the clock, counting down to formations, making hundreds of

announcements, and opening and closing the trunk room. The sentinels are marching post and either yelling at those out of uniform or being amused with the random tomfoolery currently going on in barracks. While only some guard team members can avoid class, all guard team members can look forward to some free time, authority, and hay downs.

With individuals like these guarding "Mother I" even John B. Strange can rest easy knowing that the "Healthful and



BREAKING THE RULES

Breaking the rules is a common occurrence in the daily life of a cadet. Outsiders are often struck by cadets' willingness to live on the edge, especially given the array of pernicious penalties that our persistent rule breaking inevitably will lead to. Some rules are broken because we have no choice. Often, we are faced with a VMI "good deal", where we must choose which conflicting rule to follow, or if we hold rank, we may just get a penalty for doing our job. More often than not though, we break the rules for fun. It's our favorite game that we play with our favorite adversary—the administration. Sometimes we win and get that nice feeling of satisfaction, sometimes we lose, and we are forced to endure that period of enforced meditation known as confinement, and its concomitant cohort, the penalty tour. Even when our machinations come undone, when the line starts to weaken, our backs fail to gain, and we rally, for after all, we are all unreformed recidivists.



Gasp! A third with a cell phone.



An unauthorized fighting fish.



CONFINEMENT

Confinement is an all too frequent occurrence in the life of a cadet. Just about every cadet will serve Barracks confinement several times in his or her cadetship, often for weeks at a time. Their crimes and sentences are varied, from as minor as 10 minutes late to class for a week on confinement, to a full four months of confinement for drinking in Barracks. Those found guilty of especially heinous crimes may even have to serve room confinement. Confinement also breeds more confinement. Since cadets are forced to spend more time at VMI, they have more time to get bored, and those cadets serving longer sentences also must go to greater lengths to entertain themselves, which in turn leads to even more confinement. Luckily, most cadets find some way to maintain their sanity while serving long stretches of confinement without getting themselves thrown out of school.

WHILE ON CONFINEMENT, ONE HAS PLENTY OF TIME TO...



Rack out



Lament the gospel according to the Commandant



PT.



Study, but that probably won't happen



Go Crazy!

Cadet Life

PENALTY TOURS

Ernest Hemmingway once wrote, "I know only what is moral is what you feel good after and what is immoral is what you feel bad after." Which is somewhat similar to the VMI paradigm for morality, "what is moral is what you feel good after, and what is immoral is what you march penalty tours after." Needless to say, the VMI standards for morality are slightly more ambitious than those of America's most intoxicated author.

Rare is the cadet who graduates without having - at least once - graced Sergeant Major Neel's elite morning drill platoons. It was a clever man who sat down decades ago and scribbled out the criteria for punishing delinquent cadets: one hour of slugging around in front of barracks - often in freezing temperatures - with rifles shouldered. Unfortunately for the Corps,

penalty-tours are perhaps the only gift outside confinement that the Commandant's Office is generous with. Thus evidence of that generosity is visible every morning (except Sunday) with the scores of "Neel's Immorals."

Yet, like the ratline, there is something endearing about penalty tours. Cadets marching out of step, calling ridiculous cadences, stopping for "stationary drill breaks", and entertaining each other with stories from the days past all contribute to VMI cadet *modus operandi* of making the best out of the worst situations. In the end, PTs seem to be one of those terrible little VMI quirks that will be reflected fondly upon by alumni for years to come, and will endure in their memories to their 50th reunion and beyond.



Middle Right: a "stationary drill break." **Bottom:** SGM Neel looks on as his "hobos" sign off their penalty tours.



CLUB CROZET

From uncomfortable rat meals on the front three to relaxed lunches with friends, Crozet Hall and its dining experience is quintessential VMI. Where else besides barracks can you find such a stark contrast between the VMI subcultures? The object of both affection and disdain from the Corps, Crozet Hall stirs the most passionate opinions about the quality of VMI food service. Some find that the food leaves a bit to be desired, "Well Crozet



is never better than mediocre, I find myself constantly dissatisfied with the food, but I guess it could be worse," comments Brad Haywood, reflecting on four years of "Crozet Gourmet". Others feel that the variety offered more than makes up for certain culinary inadequacies. "I eat cereal a lot," comments 3rd Classman Shaun Jones. Regardless of receptions as lukewarm as the soup, Crozet still maintains a solid fanbase, seemingly centered around the 200 Level of Scott Shipp Hall (eloquently summed up by Professor Roger Thompson, "Crispitos Day!"). Furthermore, the

Institute's beloved Mess Hall spawns more creativity than a beatnik coffee shop. After several months of "beef nuggets", cadets take matters into their own hands, becoming culinary "MacGuyvers." The microwave and toaster oven becomes the mainstay of these creative efforts, mostly used for melting cheese onto English muffins, Bavarian sausages, and French poodles. Some



are less motivated in their designs, opting to simply slap burger and chicken patties together, chow down and move out. Crozet, in all of its splendor, is more about the food. Its about the atmosphere. As another Scott Shipp 200 level fan club member, Lt. Col. Kurt Ayau, quipped "There's usually something on the menu to satisfy anyone, but it's the ambience and decor that keeps me coming back for more."



CHAIN OF COMMAND

The year 2003-2004 will forever be remembered as the year in which the men and women of VMI stepped up and fulfilled the positions in the Corps in which they "made things happen."

Hell Week set the year off on an outstanding foundation in which professionalism and trust were well established by Cadre, who set a standard that would be upheld throughout the year for the Corps to follow. The leadership of the Corps was able to take on tough initiatives set

out by the Commandant's office and make them work. However, most importantly, they made them work efficiently and effectively. In doing so, the leadership of the Corps was formed into a "well oiled machine," and a team that stood by one another no matter what. Also, maturing daily in the rigorous duties of leading

their peers with the constant goal in mind, "For the betterment of THE CORPS." Leadership and power at VMI were not held by one person, or by one group. Instead, they were held by the Corps, where they belong, and where they will stay as long as the men and women of VMI, year after year, step up and take charge of the Institute. I take great pride and trust in

leaving the Institute, that no matter what, **"THE 'CORPS' WILL BE HEARD FROM TODAY!"**

Benjamin K. Hasse
Regimental Commandant
Commanding 2003-2004





Governor Mark Warner
Commander-in-Chief



General J.H. Binford Peay, III
Superintendent



Brigadier General Charles F. Brower
Deputy Superintendent for Academics and
Dean of the Faculty



Brigadier General Robert Green
Deputy Superintendent for Finance and
Administration



Colonel Susan Barr
Dean of Academic Support and
Cadet Services



Mr. Donny White
Director of Intercollegiate
Athletics



Colonel Mike Strickler
Executive Assistant to the
Superintendent



Colonel James Groves
Institute Planning Officer



Colonel Leroy Hammond
Executive Officer
Sender of Mass E-Mails



Colonel Ken White
Director of Communications and
Marketing



Colonel James Joyner
Director of Auxiliary Services



Colonel James S. Park
Institute Chaplain



David Copeland, M.D.
Institute Physician
Prescriber of Tussin and Sudafed



Colonel William Stockwell
Associate Dean for Planning
Denier of Permits



Colonel Robert MacDonald
Associate Dean for Academic
Affairs



Major Timothy Williams
Director of Cadet Activities

Commandant's Staff



Lt. Col. Gary M. Levenson
Deputy Commandant
"The L-Train"



Colonel Eric D. Hutchings
Commandant of Cadets



Colonel L.E. Hurlbut
Asst. Commandant for Cadet Life



Colonel Thomas B. Moncure
Cadet Government Advisor



Colonel John Brodie
Band Director



Lt. Col. Joseph Irby
Battalion Advisor



Lt. Col. Russell M. Rivers
Battalion Advisor



Major Mitchell H. Fridley
Asst. Commandant S-1 S-4



Sgt. Major John L. Neel
Corps Sgt. Major

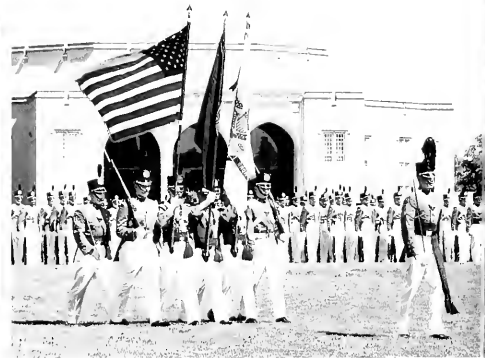
The 2003-2004 Regimental Staff



Benjamin Hassell
Regimental Commander



Josh Powers
Executive Officer





Bree Adams
S-1 Captain



Matthew Park
S-2 Captain



Rich Connaroe
S-3 Captain



Eric Hepfer
S-4 Captain



Matt Sharpe
S-5 Captain



Will Simmons
S-6 Captain



Daniel J. Cragg
S-7 Captain



George Cushman
S-1 Lieutenant



Charles Munn
S-3 Lieutenant



Geoff Goldsmith
S-4 Lieutenant



Lincoln Clark
S-5 Lieutenant



Ryan Thiele
S-6 Lieutenant



Phillip Cole
S-6 Lieutenant



Jamaal Stafford
S-1 Sergeant



Allen Porter
S-2 Sergeant



Aaron Gleaton
S-3 Sergeant



John Thompson
S-4 Sergeant



Paul Bryan
S-5 Sergeant



Laughton Way
S-6 Sergeant



Walter Shakespeare
S-6 Sergeant



Amie Anne Novak
S-7 Sergeant

First Battalion



Jaden Lowry
Battalion Commander



Edward Chen
Executive Officer



Jonathan Hicks
S-1 Lieutenant



Dave Coleman
S-2 Lieutenant



Jarod Parker
S-3 Lieutenant



Jim Bean
S-4 Lieutenant



Adam Halstead
S-5 Lieutenant



Jason Cox
S-6 Lieutenant



Jason Brightwell
S-7 Lieutenant



John Coleman
Sergeant-Major

Hardcore Alpha

Alpha Company,

The Corps has a lot of preconceptions about Alpha Company, none of which matter to us. To members of Alpha, our lineage and history speaks for itself. From Corporal Atwill to George C. Marshall, cadets for generations have been a part of the hardest company on the hill. Unique to Alpha we boast not only Corps leaders such as the Regimental Commander, but team captains, GC members, honor court members, and a tight group of privates who represent the essence of VMI. I have truly been blessed to be a part of such a fine group. To the members of Alpha: continue the tradition and be proud of your heritage. Each day you fall in at BRC you are continuing it, never forget that. Captain DeVarona you have been a true asset, Alpha owes you a debt of gratitude. In the words of George C. Marshall, "It is not enough to fight. It is the spirit, which we bring to the fight that decides the issue. It is the morale that wins the victory"

In the Bonds of Hard Core Alpha,
Mark L. Hamilton



Alpha First Class Privates



Mark Hamilton
Company Commander



Michael Gregory
Executive Officer



Joseph Montagna
Guidon



Andrew Harris
1st Plt. Lieutenant



Edward Cooper
2nd Plt. Lieutenant



Thomas Beale
3rd Plt. Lieutenant



Ian Dunlap
First Sergeant



Margaret Smith
Operations Sergeant



Jason Downs
Master Sergeant

Ball Bustin' Bravo

Bravo Company,

I would like to take this, my last opportunity, to thank all of you for a great year. You have taught me many lifelong lessons. Being a company commander might not be the most coveted job at VMI, but I wouldn't trade it for the world. Sure, there have been tough times, but I've learned from each one. Going into this I didn't know if I could handle maintaining friendships with my peers and doing my job to "Institute" standards, but I've found with mutual respect anything is possible. First, I would like to thank all my rankers. Without your hard work, I couldn't have accomplished anything. To my XO Stan, you and your cadre did a great job with the rats this year. To all the first class privates: You have meant the most to me. Thank you for your support and never ending antics. You've kept a smile on my face and the Commandant off my back...for the most part. To the rest of the upperclassmen: Good luck with the remainder of your time here at VMI. I hope that I might have left just the smallest impression on you for next year. Finally to the rats: While I was not around much, you've made me proud to call myself the Bravo Company Commander, especially when you took home the Rat Challenge Trophy. Well, I guess that's it. Best of Luck.

Mike McLaughlin
Bravo Company Commander



Bravo First Class Privates



Michael McLaughlin
Company Commander



Stan Kielezewski
Executive Officer



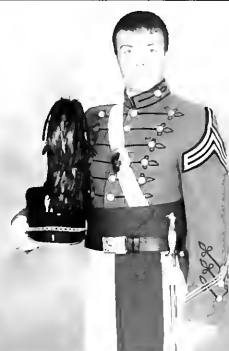
Raymond L'Heureux
Guidon



Steven Ravica
1st Plt. Lieutenant



Timothy Price
2nd Plt. Lieutenant



Ross Davis
3rd Plt. Lieutenant



Conor Heely
First Sergeant



Preston Griffith
Operations Sergeant



Shore Stokes
Master Sergeant

Cold Steel Charlie

Cold Steel,

To the 1st Classmen, it has been an honor and privilege to spend the last four years with you. I wish y'all the best of luck as we finally come to an end of our cadetships, and I know the best is yet to come.

To next year's leadership, pray that you have 1st Class Privates that are as easy to work with as the guys we had this year. Work hard for the Company, instill pride in the Rats, and always take care of the upperclassmen. Lead with common sense, and listen to the privates.

To the privates, help your leaders. Listen to them, and try to give them the benefit of the doubt. Take pride in Charlie Company and in VMI. Be proud of what you have accomplished thus far, and work hard to keep the tradition alive. To the Class of 2007, I am proud of you. You have come a long way since August, but the challenge has just begun. Take care of each other, respect the system, and remember, "We do things different in Charlie Company."

God Bless,

Dave Bruton



Charlie First Class Privates



David Bruton
Company Commander



Charles Roberts
Executive Officer



Bice Hamilton
Guidon



James Reisch
1st Plt. Lieutenant



Kent Monas
2nd Plt. Lieutenant



John Ginder
3rd Plt. Lieutenant



Samuel Johnson
First Sergeant



James Hayes
Operations Sergeant



Brian Gorski
Master Sergeant

Mad Dog Delta

First I would like to thank God for all he has done to get me where I am today. It has been an honor and a privilege for me to serve as Delta Company Commander this year. Originally I didn't plan on applying for rank but in the long run it was inevitable that I attained this position. It has been a fun and rewarding experience for me, one that I will never forget. Ross and Christian, thanks for sticking beside me throughout our four years here. I was glad that we could all be on the same staff together. We thought it would be this way since rat year and it definitely has come true. Ross I couldn't have asked for a better XO; I don't think it would have worked any other way. This year we were fortunate to have an awesome TAC, Capt. James Cook, he knows how to treat cadets the way they want to be treated and at the same time, maintain the sense of military pride that we should all aspire to have. I hope VMI was as rewarding for him as it has been for me. I want to personally thank Capt. Cook and SSgt. Burke for their support and encouragement this year for Delta Company and for always having encouraging words to offer. It has truly been a blessing for me to have you both as Delta TACs. Last but not least, the tailgate commander: Metz, you have always been the first on the battlefield and the last to leave. The troops always looked well, and they held the line. Thank you to all the MADDOGs for making this a memorable year for me. I hope and pray much success to all those upcoming rankers and privates who are ready to finish off this journey they call VMI. I leave you with this, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." 2 Timothy 4:7.

Roderick V. James
Delta C.O. 2004



Delta First Class Privates



Roderick James
Company Commander



Ross Garnett
Executive Officer



Christian Deshazor
Guidon



Jesse Seguin
1st Plt. Lieutenant



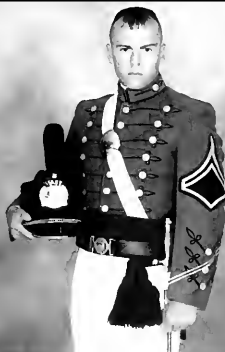
Robert Metz
2nd Plt. Lieutenant



Anthony Miller
3rd Plt. Lieutenant



Lev Pobirsky
First Sergeant



Aaron Thatcher
Operations Sergeant



Matthew Hendricks
Master Sergeant



John Corrado
Regimental SGM



Regimental Color Guard



Alexander Boykin
Color Sergeant



Yu-Fan Chen
Color Sergeant



Anthony Iliadis
Color Sergeant



Matthew Kurz
Color Sergeant



Christopher Muller
Color Sergeant



Matthew Noreus
Color Sergeant

Second Battalion



Anthony Peters
Battalion Commander



Hrvoje Glasnovic
Executive Officer



Peter Kent
S-1 Lieutenant



Brandon Smith
S-2 Lieutenant



Scott Campbell
S-3 Lieutenant



Frank Toomey
S-4 Lieutenant



Shelley Cox
S-5 Lieutenant



John Puvogel
S-6 Lieutenant



Ryan Consaul
S-7 Lieutenant



Loren Gernandt
Sergeant-Major

Tiger Echo

Tiger Echo.

Four years have never passed by so quickly in all of my life, nor have I had so many days pass by so slowly. It is hard to believe that on the last day of each of our cadetships we must go our separate ways -- be it graduate school, commissioning, a job, or returning back to our home countries for the first time in four years. To those in Echo graduating this year, congratulations! We did it. Not only were we lucky enough to make it the four years, but we did it while keeping Echo's traditions alive to the best of our abilities. Not a day goes by when I don't remember something funny that someone did as a rat or the times we paid for our mistakes on the stoops. And for those memories and experiences, I am forever grateful to all of you. Every experience we have and every person we meet in our lives affects us in either negative or positive ways. I am pleased to say that being with Echo has given me many opportunities and great friends. I would have not changed a thing. To the seconds and thirds in Echo, I urge you to keep the faith. Do not give up your beliefs or your endeavors. VMI is in a time of change, and though you might think that the administration has complete control of the school and you as a single cadet feel powerless at times, you do have something that they never have or probably ever will have. You have the complete attention and time of the rats. You can still make them feel proud of what they did, and you can still build fires in their eyes and bellies, and you can still teach them to act honorably, and you have the ability to give them what our cadre gave to us...a brotherhood through hardship. Take care of the company, take care of each other, keep the faith and give the next year's rats hell. Thank you all for allowing me to serve Echo these past four years.

Daniel D. Ropp
Echo Company Commander



Echo First Class Privates



Daniel Ropp
Company Commander



Joshua Montero
Executive Officer



Michael McHugh
Guidon



Samuel Orr
1st Plt. Lieutenant



Brock Daniels
2nd Plt. Lieutenant



Alexander Nicoloff
3rd Plt. Lieutenant



William Ray
First Sergeant



William Deshazor
Operations Sergeant



Jeffrey Sparks
Master Sergeant

F-Troop

When I sat down to write this I remembered something I had read in an old VMI bomb about some F-troop company commander catching hell about not letting the company change to "foxtrot". Well nearly two decades later we are still holding the line in a battle against the administration. That really embodies what this company was to me, unique. We have always been different, and certainly have been the tightest group of guys out there. I thank each one of my BRs for letting me take the reins this year and for giving me the support to better myself as a leader. Good luck to each one of you on the road ahead, may it bring you glory and fortune. To the underclass, I have strained each and every one of you and hand the company down with the trust that you'll continue to keep her strong and ever vigilant. Always remember...F-Troop, screw the rest.

Harley Jennings
F-Troop CO



F-Troop First Class Privates



Harley Jennings
Company Commander



Jake Fauber
Executive Officer



Jon Jones
Guidon



Ryan Taylor
1st Plt. Lieutenant



Stacy Rostorfer
2nd Plt. Lieutenant



Joseph Doane
3rd Plt. Lieutenant



Austin House
First Sergeant



Laura Mack
Operations Sergeant



Sean Matson
Master Sergeant

Blood & Guts Golf

Brother Rats,

Who would have guessed that I would become CO, but here I am. It's been an interesting 4 years and I can say, without a doubt, that being in Golf has made this place a little more bearable. We were the best company on the hill rat year and when all is said and done, we still will be. All I can ask is that the succeeding class will carry on in the best traditions of Golf Company. "Blood and Guts Golf," and all that stuff.

Ben



Golf First Class Privates



Benjamin Nehrke
Company Commander



Gary Cutler
Executive Officer



Graham Carsow
Guidon



Ryan Koniak
1st Plt. Lieutenant



Kenneth Sydnor
2nd Plt. Lieutenant



Terrance Degray
3rd Plt. Lieutenant



Benjamin King
First Sergeant



Andrew Cochet
Operations Sergeant



Charles Stokes
Master Sergeant

Hard Chargin' Hotel

Hollywood Hotel,

Let me start off by saying how much of a privilege it was to work with you this year. We may not have always been the most squared away company, but we definitely had fun. In a few years we will all eventually look back, despite what we believe now, and we won't remember that we all shaved before every formation or that our shoes were always shined. What we are going to remember is how we managed to get a fellow Hoteler off of the football field undetected after urinating on himself during the National Anthem. We might even remember the numerous times people passed out at Saturday BRCs (or came to formation with painted on beards) for unexplainable reasons. We probably will also remember when a brother rat woke up missing an eyebrow, promptly deciding to recreate it with a magic marker. These will be the things we remember.

In closing, I think the largest reason Hotel has always been special to me is that every member holds a bond with each other as if we were all brother rats of the same class. I will miss you all.

Here's to the most belligerent company,
Matthew York
Hotel CO '04



Hotel First Class Privates



Matthew York
Company Commander



Noah Diehl
Executive Officer



Benjermin Harris
Guidon



Charles Karamon
1st Plt. Lieutenant



Jason Dorn
2nd Plt. Lieutenant



Lakin Board
3rd Plt. Lieutenant



William Bryant
First Sergeant



Andrew Miller
Operations Sergeant



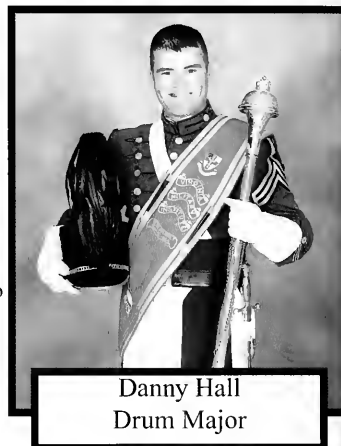
George Melton
Master Sergeant

Blood Thirsty Band

Band Company,

Thank you for giving me the distinct privilege of being your company commander. In many respects this was a tough year for the Band. The Institute is changing, and as we have seen this year many times, the Band feels those changes the most. However, you all have persevered, and for good reason. This is a unique company, one that carries a much larger burden than the other eight. Take pride in the fact that you have given up countless hours of your own personal time to represent the Institute, or simply prepare for the upcoming parades. Your hard work has not gone unnoticed, and I thank all of you for your devotion. Without it, the Band would not be where it is today and with it, the Band will accomplish great things in its many years to come.

Respectfully,
Justin Bierens
Band CO



Danny Hall
Drum Major



Band First Class Privates



Justin Bierens
Company Commander



Jillian Hafer
Executive Officer



Joshua Wright
Guidon



Jason Quash
1st Plt. Lieutenant



Joseph DiDomenico
2nd Plt. Lieutenant



Jeffrey Hocutt
3rd Plt. Lieutenant



Travis Hoard
First Sergeant



Alex Dunoye
Operations Sergeant



Daniel Fields
Master Sergeant

A high-contrast black and white photograph. The upper portion shows a dark, textured uniform, possibly a jacket or vest, with a prominent, oval-shaped metallic badge on the right side. The lower portion is dominated by a bright, almost white area, likely a shirt or a large sheet of paper. A hand is visible on the left, holding a coiled telephone cord that extends downwards. The overall composition is stark and dramatic, with deep shadows and bright highlights.

THE CLASS OF

THE LINE ENDS HERE

We are the members of the Class of 2004. Our Hell Week marked the highest attrition rate at the Institute in 40 years. By the end of Hell Week, 55 co-matriculants were gone, but for those who remained the rest of the year still lay before us. Throughout all the hardships, we took care of each other, and we came together when we thought we could no longer go on. Many people complained when we wanted to put "LEH" on the class side of our ring, but those three letters formed a sentiment that was shared throughout the Class.

Remember Brother Rats, the Class of 2004 was the last Class to:

- have a Hell Week where Cadre had push privileges all week
- actually have a reason to use the sink
- have SRC at 1800 every night, and **workouts** immediately following
- trash Crozet Hall in an attempt to show unity
- march to Jackson's grave in overcoat before BRC to show unity
- have **31 Sweat Parties**
- set a fire in New Barracks Courtyard
- have a forced march during **Parent's Weekend**
- have a stoop run in overcoat
- have the RDC throw out our hays
- have an hour long sweat party from the First Class in Old Barracks Courtyard

All of these elements and many more combined to make our class, the **CLASS OF 2004**, one of the most unified and spirited groups to pass through these hallowed walls. It is these same elements that has led us to truly believe that the **LINE ENDS HERE**. Class of 2004, be proud of what you have and what you will become. When you look back on the times we have spent here, remember the sacrifices we have made and remember how we came together.





Bree A. Adams
Gainesville, FL

Navy - Biology

I remember my mother crying when they called for the Alpha Company rats to exit JM Hall. I was anxious with a sense of excitement for the unknown. Once again I find myself with that feeling as one chapter in my life has closed and another opened. I am relieved that four years have come and gone but looking back I don't regret any of it. I am proud to have VMI as my alma mater. At first I hated the "F", then I grew to appreciate her. The girls she has given me have molded me into the person I am today. I know that after leaving VMI there is nothing that I cannot accomplish.

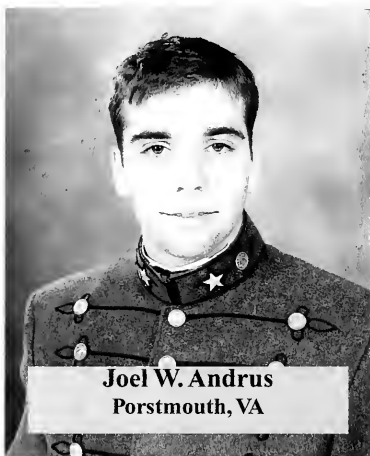
I want to thank my family who pushed me when I needed it the most and who were always supportive. I love you all so much. To Aunt Eloise and Uncle Nate (the great class of '45), thank you for all your support. To my host family, Dirk and Molly Brown, who kept me as their rat for my entire cadetship. To my rats, Matt and Whitney; you really made my first class year a lot of fun. It was a challenge and a pleasure teaching you two the ropes of VMI and neither of you ceased to surprise me. The ball is in your court guys, you can do anything you set your mind to. To Libbi, Erica, Scott, and Danny: We did it! I love you guys! Anchors Away!

Swimming 3, 1; Dean's list 4,3,2,1; English Society 3,2,1; TGMS 2,1; Theater 4,3,2; Rank 3,2,1; Colorguard 2; Cadre 3,2,1; undergraduate research program 2; lifeguarding 3,2,1; BSU 4, 3; Trident Society 4;

2001 - Daniel Richard Stock
2007 - Matthew B. Greetham
Whitney C. Matthews



64 First Class



Joel W. Andrus
Portsmouth, VA

*"Hippy, Steve"
Air Force - English/Philosophy*

The Red Wheelbarrow

so much depends
upon

a red wheel
barrow

glazed with rain
water

beside the white
chickens.

-Williams Carlos Williams

Swimming 4; TGMS 3,2,1; Philosophy Club 2,1;
NCMT 3,2,1; Academic Mentor 2; The Cadet 3,2;
The Bomb 2,1; Dean's List 3,2,1; Ac Stars 1

2001 - Seth Ford, Josh Hurley, Ears
2007 - Larry Richardson,
Dan Czupryna



Erica L. Ardolino
Lexington, VA

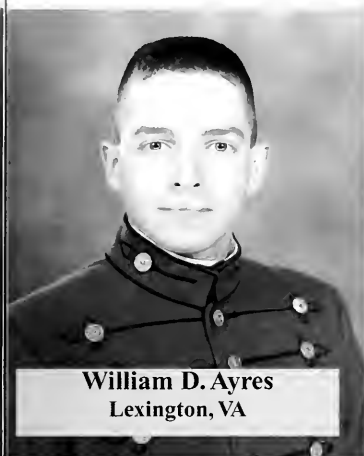
Army - History

For those that know me, and those that don't, "I'm tough, ambitious, and I know exactly what I want. If that makes me a bitch, okay." (Madonna) Thanks VMI for changing me into the girl above. Daddy: Thanks for always making me the little tom-girl that shrugged off the male authority. Without your support my journey at VMI would have been that much harder. For my other family, the Turners: I love you three so much. You are the family that I never had, but always wanted. Libbi, Sarah, and Mariah: You three are amazing. Thanks for giving me the confidence I needed to mature into a lady. No matter what, you guys will always be my best friends. Even though many people tried to tear us apart, we only grew closer, surviving VMI, one day at a time. Only you guys could have dealt with how loud and obnoxious I am. No matter where you are if you need me I'll be there for you. I love yins! Ali: Even though you weren't my roommate, you became second only to them. Other than me you have got to be the most straight forward and loudest person I know. You've not only stopped me from getting into fights, but you have also joined in. You backed me up on everything. You're a true friend, who will never leave me, and who I will always be near. My girls in '04: thanks for your friendship, and everything you've given to me during my cadetship. All those drunken nights have given me a lifetime of memories. 124 rats: You guys were amazing, thanks for everything. Anytime you need me I'll be there for you. Jack, Fred, and Chi Chi: You boys are amazing guys, and will always be my rats. Keep up the awesome job on and off the court. I will be watching and cheering the loudest! Fat Ass: you know who you are...I love ya!

Marathon Club-1, 2; Rat Challenge Station
Cadre CIC 1; Cadre 2, 3; Title IX 3

2001 - Kevin Consedine
2007 - Jack Castleberry, Chi Chi
Ezekwe, and Fred Robinson





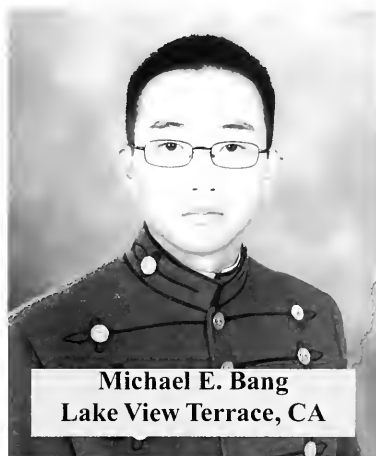
William D. Ayres
Lexington, VA

"Towny"

Navy - Mechanical Engineering

ow, how time flies. One minute we are rats, throwing
ys and getting worked out, the next we are wearing our
ngs and working out OUR rats. I never will forget the
st day, someone asked me "you've lived in Lexington
our whole life, and you still decided to come here? What
your problem?" To this day I still have trouble answering
at question, but now it's a little clearer. Walking across
at stage, to get that piece of sheepskin that only a select
w have and seeing the look on my parents' faces. ...it all
akes it worth while. Mike, it was fun balling you up all
e time. Steve, I wish you and Michelle luck. Jake and
rian, what can I say, always Townies. Members of the
eath Squad, all the blood, tears, and sweat everyday on
e track, it's worth it; the spikes are being hung up. Death
quad for life. To all my friends...good luck in the future.
o my parents...thanks for your support. I thank most of
ll, my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ for giving me the
length, the encouragement, the opportunity, and time.

ports: Track and Field (Indoor and Outdoor)
3.2.1



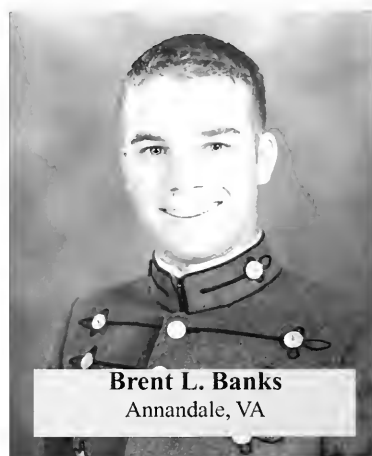
Michael E. Bang
Lake View Terrace, CA

"Nickname"

Army - Computer Science

We made it. Every year has been a truly an extraordinary
experience. Room 429 "the bowling alley" Russo saw a
ghost; Erwin caught mono; Smith never changed his socks,
and I was the heat shield because of my last name and
initials. There are many memories of getting drunk and
running in the wrong direction during rat riots. Chen and
I always got yelled at by Chung. I had great times in room
351 - partying with the French cadets on post and Beatley
urinating all over his book bag and on my feet. I don't
know how we got to formation or class, blame it all on the
Russian Death. We lost our minds during finals, started
eating ramen raw and trying to hide from life in our wall
locker. In room 225, there was so much drama between
Russo and Banks. Don't mess with Russo's DVDs or his
Christmas lights. Beatley and I would play CS. Gochenour
got his laptop keys melted by his own lamp. Ring Figure
was a blast. I never got so hammered in all my life without
throwing up. Partying at JMU and being dubbed "the
legend". I never suffered so much at Land Nav. Russell
got hypothermia and had to get stripped naked so he could
get body warmth from Maj. Lethers. The MS III line was
horrible, it rained every time we went out to train. In room
104, Russell became the "one pump wonder", and tried to
make me think with his philosophical questions like "How
do you know we're not in Russia right now?" Beatz finally
got a girlfriend and Brent is still a pretty hoy. I'll miss those
late night talks of shedets. Overall, I made some good
friends, had a few good laughs, and got plenty of PTs with
confinement. "It is only by doing things others have not that
one can advance" - General George S. Patton, Jr.

VMI Taekwondo Club 2; VMI NCAA Swimming
2; NMBS AS4 1; Dean's List 3; Pre-Law Society 1;
Cadet Computer Lab Assistant 2; 1st Class Private 4



Brent L. Banks
Annandale, VA

"Bobo"

Navy - Civil Engineering

It seems like we were just matriculating yesterday and
now here we are finishing up our First Class year. Well
better thank some people for making this place semi-
bearable while I was here. First off and foremost to my
family. Dad, Mom, Ashley, Brian, and Grandma Nona,
for being there always for me, willing to do anything to
help me graduate. To all my roommates who have often
helped me forget how terrible this place can be, cheers.
And to the Class of 2004, I look forward to drinking with
you on the parade deck during our reunions. Of course
I cannot forget about all my good friends from JMU,
Virginia Tech, UVA, UNC and CNU, who have made me
feel "normal" on the weekends. And how about all my
military boys and girls: Sielari, Feige, Beatnuttz, Bang
Me, Mr. One Pump Champ, Will, Libby and last but not
least, my Spring Break drinking partner, along with my
Wingman, Matty. I will see you all over in the Sandbox.
Finally I would like to honor the man who inspired me to
come here and choose a Naval Career. My Grandfather
inscribed this quote in a book he gave me just before he
passed away, and I have used the words as inspiration
throughout the years at VMI.

"To my grandson Brent Lawrence Banks who honors
me in his career choice of being a Naval Officer may he
steer a steady course through life, weather the storms and
raging seas, and continue to be the mature leader he has
been. I wish him smooth seas and following winds in an
exciting voyage through life.

With much love and respect,
Captain George W. Fromknecht: USN (Ret.)"

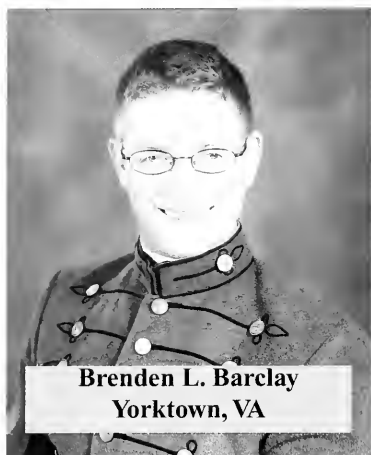
GC Secretary; Swim and Dive Team 4.3.2.1; Trident
Society 4.2.1; Club Soccer 2.1; Dean's List

2001 - Todd Jasper
2007 - Chad Simmons



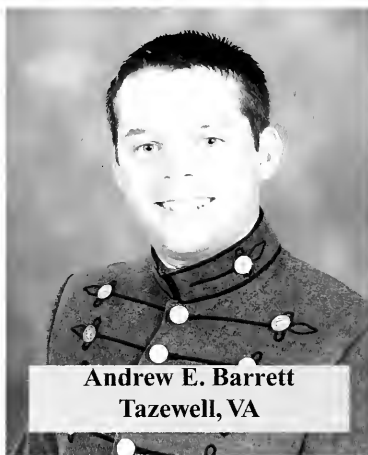
2001 - Oscar Alfaro
2007 - Peter Kowalczyk





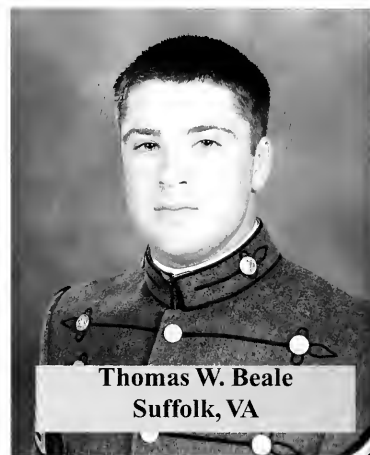
Brenden L. Barclay
Yorktown, VA

"Barc, The Barc"
Army - Psychology



Andrew E. Barrett
Tazewell, VA

Army - Civil Engineering



Thomas W. Beale
Suffolk, VA

Army - Business and Economics

Well, what can I say? It's been a long and rough 5 years here, and maybe someday I'll graduate! Mom and Dad, thank you for being behind me all the way and for letting me be my own person. Pop-pop, I love you and miss you. I know you are watching over me now and always. Chris, I will kick your ass in darts and bowling one of these days! You were an awesome roommate and I am entirely in your and Amanda's debt. Anything you need, you got it. Stacia, I love you now and always. You have made me a better and happier person. Tom, you will do well in life because you have come so far from the doubting rat that I met you as. Keith and Jon, you have made this year the best year of school. The fun times we had together will always be remembered. Psalm 144: 1-2

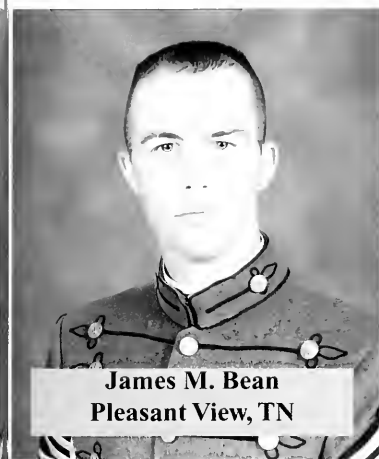
I would like to start off by thanking my parents, my sister, my fiancé, and my boys here for making the past four years bearable. I am a believer that everything happens for a reason and for that I am very grateful. I have been blessed in many ways by coming to VMI and at first it was hard to see but through the years I have been able to realize just how lucky I truly am. I would like to especially thank my roommate "Mad Dawg" for always being there through the rat room stories, NaNa Wright, Ben and Doug, and finally D1. To Chris and D2 you all have been great rats keep your heads up and before you know it, you will be writing first class histories. A special thanks to all of those that are going into the military, thank you for being who you are and for protecting this great nation. Now for the main reason I was able to get through VMI: Cristin I don't know how to thank you for all that you have done for me, you have always believed in me in everything I have done and have made many sacrifices for me. I am the luckiest guy in the world to have you and before too long our dreams will come true. Again, thanks to all of my boys (you know who you are) for everything you have done for me. Philippines 4:13.

First and foremost, to my family, I wouldn't be where I am today without all your love and support. Thanks for always being there - I love you. I still do not know why I chose VMI. But it was my decision, so I'm not going to sit back and complain. However, I would like to thank VMI for teaching me how bad leadership will destroy the morale of any group of people. More importantly, the past four years has taught me lessons about life and friendship. There have been hardships and frustrations over the past four years that anyone living outside these four walls would not understand. But through everything I have made some of the best friends I will ever have and learned much from them. Some have come and gone, but I respect every one of you. Jay and Adam, we may have made bad decisions but I'm glad we all stuck it out. BMal, Sloan, Porter, Terrell, Sturz, Mark, Joe, Dan, Eddie, and Mo thanks for all the good times and I wish you all the best. You guys are what kept me coming back every August. 114 rats, work hard and remember what we have taught you. To the Honor Court - Do what you feel is right and seek not the recognition from others, for those who cannot understand are those who can never appreciate the sacrifices made by so few. Amber, you have been with me through it all, thanks for all your support-I love you. Well, I've had just about as much fun as I can stand these past four years, guess I better get going.

OCF 4,3,2,1; Cadet Battery 3,2; AAAA 3, 2; Drill Team 1; The Bare 4,3,2,1

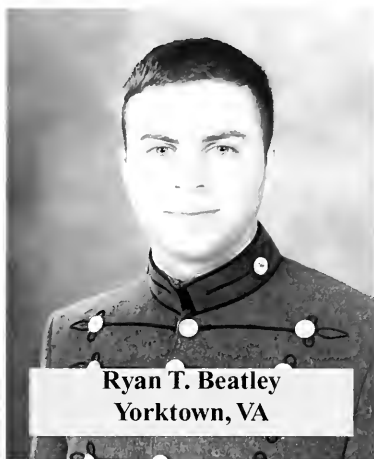
NCAA Football 1,2; Strength & Fitness Club 3; Rank 3; Dean's List 1, 3, 4





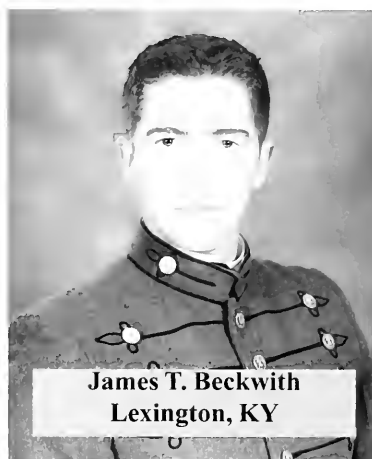
James M. Bean
Pleasant View, TN

Army - English



Ryan T. Beatley
Yorktown, VA

Navy - Civil Engineering

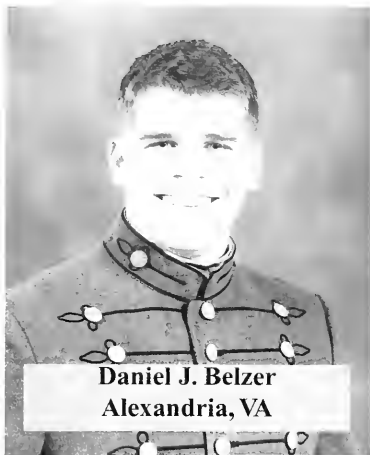


James T. Beckwith
Lexington, KY

Army - Economics and Business

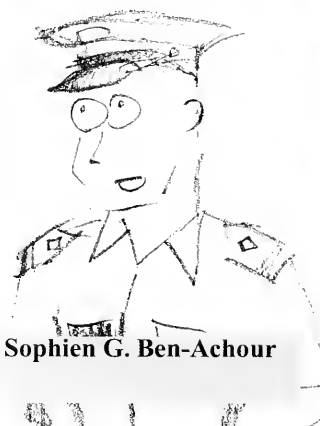
It all started August 14, 2000 and God willing it will be over on New Market Day 2004. The Rat Mass of the first co-ed Class will finally receive their diplomas and Bibles. Anyone who knows me well, knows that dykelines and traditions are important to me, so it is no surprise I am now sitting in my grand dyke's same room wearing his same rank. I'm sure that he and the other Men of '98 would be proud of the Class their Rats produced. February 25, 2001 seems so long ago now, but that is when the 196 days of Hell ended and we were finally no longer rodents. Erich, Eric, and Vic had taught me almost everything I would need to know for the next three years. Congrats to all the '01+3 149 boys who made it from that point to this one. Especially Chipper since we have stayed the tightest and lived together since we were Thirds. Go Dawgs! Go Vols! Good luck with Amanda, and I can't wait to ride in a plane you're flying. Jeff Hocutt Donahue, it was nice to have you with Chip and I in 149. You're southern at heart, enjoy Armor buddy. Guys, nothing will top when we had the USMA Brigade S-3 stand Monday Morning Inspection in a First Class PVT's uniform. To the men of the S-4 staff, thanks for a great year. To all the '04 F-Troopers, congrats because we survived the highest attrition rate and finally made it when so many others didn't. Volim te Scarlett, only one more year to go. Eric A. Bruns, you will always be "Bluuue". Laura E. Hash, never forget what you stand for. Both of you were great Rats. To the rest of the 04+3 149 Rats, remember VMI is the place you love to hate, but it will all be worth it in May 2007. Jeff and Chip, we are finally "Whole Men, VMI Men".





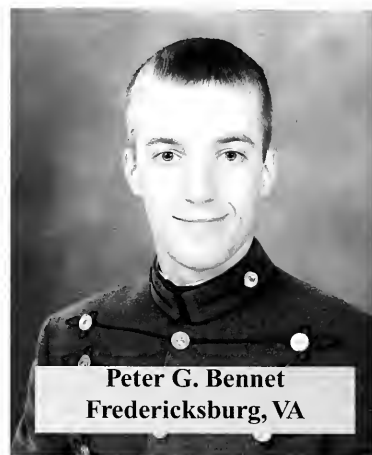
Daniel J. Belzer
Alexandria, VA

Army - Mechanical Engineering



Sophien G. Ben-Achour

*"Ben-Hur"
Air Force*



Peter G. Bennet
Fredericksburg, VA

*"Benétte, Girl-Boy, "Beavis"
Navy - Mechanical Engineering*

No words of mine can properly cherish the memories or men that I now leave behind. To my roommates: you are the best men I have ever known, and it is only by grace that my life has been enriched by such examples of conviction and honor. Only now can I fathom how much I will miss you. To my rats, I can only say that personal pride is part of the journey into manhood. I have given you everything that I have to give so that you can hold your heads high with no regrets of where you have been or where you will go. To my brother rat Noom: you are not forgotten, and you are not left behind. To my future wife: So much of my life I owe to your compassion and companionship. Your willingness to sacrifice your own desires so that I might succeed is testament enough to the unwavering love that I often take for granted.

Ryan: our first class CEC was an airplane; but our second and third class CEC was definitely made with water and rubber. I will not forget the unit systems and Tyrone episodes, the love poems and the name games, the hood of that mazda and that cops' windshield.

John, I am glad that we had the opportunity to dethrone you. Who could forget the "doghouse cover." I will never forget trying to get that computer box out the window of NFB.

Eric, I am grateful for your maturity and conviction. You have emotional strength that I admire, my cure for brain fatigue has often been lacrosse, soon it must become something else, and I have your ambition as a guide. Brooke, your beauty and kindness will never age. You have a love of life that is most dear to me. I wish for you all the things I wish for myself and more.

Men's Lacrosse; Mechanical Engineering Fun;
Founder Clever Bus Drivers; Master Water Balloon
Assailant

Its funny how we embark on one journey only to find that it turns into a completely different one. I have found it a profound experience to know the goals that you start with, your initial ambitions, and even the person you think are, can unexpectedly change along the path that is life. However, even more profound than the change, is the process of the transformation. Through the hardship and pain that I have suffered at VMI, a true test of character emerges through the desolate cracks. Once that test of character emerges, then and only then can you begin to realize the strength that lies within. For me, it was during the eye of the darkest storm that I found that strength. From that basis I began my adventure that led me from my wonderful friends in the South of France to a personal understanding of who I really am. I never would have predicted such an outcome when I first began at VMI. However, for that many thanks are due. My dykes Rusty, Jamie, Brett, Alex and Steve put up with my continual mistakes but never gave up. Thank you Rusty and Jamie because I couldn't count the number of times that I woke you up only to get into gray blouse and accompany me to the commandants office. You were always there with out exception. Thank you Alex for your patience and example. Thank you Steve for your counsel. Thank You Brett for your compassion and understanding. All of these things I take with me always. Thank you G. Co. Brother Rats for always lending a helping hand and sharing the deepest pain and the most vibrant of laughs. Thanks to my BRs who were unconditionally there and whose support I could always count on. Most of all, thank you to my parents who have dealt with my chaos and who always stood by my side.

Most Demerits, Most GC Send Ups (From
what Hutch tells me)

JB- You've been my roommate since third class year and we've done some pretty crazy stuff throughout the years. Hams in transoms, flamethrowers, pickled pigs feet, sledding at 3 in the morning, and the famous MRE bomb heard round the world to name a few.

Sloth- Co-dykes, roommates, we've definitely been through a lot together. Drinking with Stonewall, summer school toga sweat-parties, turning dry weddings into ... well, you know. I wish you could have been here this last year I know we would have had some good times

Robb- Ay boy, you may not have joined our room until well into first class year but we've definitely managed to still have a great time. "It reminds of this one time back in 'Nam when my sergeant almost killed me because he thought I was a dink."

TJ- You may not be here any more, but we will always remember you. I can't walk past the Mirage without thinking, "I wish TJ was here", and a tear comes to my eye. Doing my laundry will never be the same without you.

Private 4.1; Color Sergeant 2; Lance Corporal 3;
Room 182 2.1; Number 1 Club1; Marathon Club
4.3.2; History 102 4.3.2; Communist 4.3.2.1; Ninja
4.3.2.1

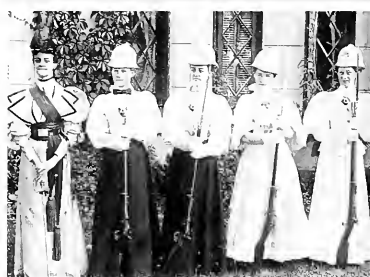
2001 - Harri Jahkola

2007 - Andrew Williams (Scarface),
Keith Johnson (Confused George)



2001 - Brandon Garrett

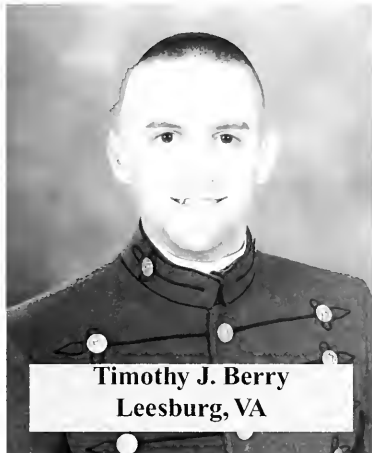
2007 - Tabitha Pinter, John McKnight





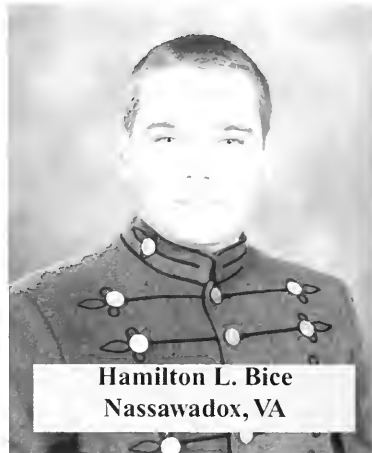
John N. Berg
Chesterfield, VA

Army - Mechanical Engineering



Timothy J. Berry
Leesburg, VA

*"Timm, Blue, Grandpa, Dingle"
Marine Corps- Chemistry*



Hamilton L. Bice
Nassawadox, VA

*"Face Number 3"
Army - Biology*

Well it's said and done and I hope it was worth it. Four years of hard time for a piece of paper. VMI definitely teaches you how to make the best out of every situation. Thanks to my family for helping get through especially my Mom and Dad for helping me go back year after year. To all the good friends that I've made here and my incredibly gay roommates, I want to wish you all good luck in the future whatever it is that you do. To Langdon (Pig Vomit), I just want to know "What exactly is booze and good luck with furthering your education you nerd. Sean, "Wake me up for graduation," treasure hunting is sounding better every day. And Jason, yes, mechanical engineering is way harder than business/econ and good luck with Dornography Inc. Everyone here that sucks, have a miserable post-VMI life.
God Bless

When I matriculated in august of 1994 I never thought the outcome would be what it is. Leaving here half way through my second class year was the hardest thing I've done, but personal reasons dictated it so. I promised my father before he passed on that I would finish and thus I am here writing something I never thought I would. Mom and Dad you are better parents than I could have wished for. You gave me all the tools I need to survive in life. Always supportive in everything I did, even now. I will never be able to thank you properly for all that you have done, or God blessing me with parents like you. To my brothers and sisters, I hope that I will be able to repay you for the support I have received from each and every one of you, I couldn't ask for a better group of siblings. Don and Dave you are like brothers to me, thank you. Vinny, Rory, Mark, Sully you guys accepted me like I was one of your own. I hope that I have been a good "grandpa" for you all, you certainly have enlightened my life. Jill you have been a true friend. One I never would have guessed I'd have, thank you. Stef and Will, what can I say. I am so proud of the both of you for embarking on a life so few have dared to, or ever will. You know that I will always be here for both of you. Most of all, to my twin brother Robbie, no one will ever be as close to me as you are. Saying thank you will never express my gratitude for what you have done for me. It has been a long road, and I would not have wanted to travel it with anyone but you.

What can you say about a guy who grows up on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, my sentiments exactly. His hopeless infatuation with the women of the seven continents and his nonchalant relaxed approach to VMI and the rest of the world made for a great roommate. His lifelong dream to become a doctor and start a practice in the quiet town where his life began is evidence of his love for the simple pleasures he has always embraced: hunting, fishing and drinking beer. Through our countless adventures over the past four years, we've seen every facet of Ham's character come alive, and lived to tell the story. Witty and sometimes downright vengeful, he was perfect for the Triangle of Terror. His ability to always get out of trouble and never get caught made him an elusive target for the admin and the envy of many cadets, in particular his roommates. We wish him the best of luck for the next several years of med-school, although we doubt he'll need it. Hamiliton. -BCT and JHR and JCD

"I am ashamed to think how easily we surrender to badges and names, to large societies and dead institutions"

PVT 4.3.2.1

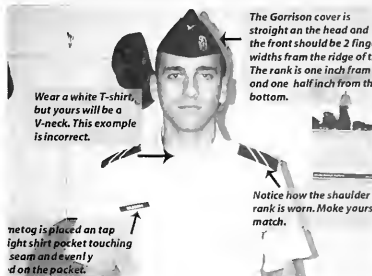
Rat 1994; Cadre; Private 1; Leatherneck Squad 2.3; Honorguard 2.3; VMI firefighters 2.3; ACS Member 2.3; F-Trooper 1.2,3.4; Senior Citizen Club 1

Dean's List 1.2,3.4; Rugby 1.2; LCS 1.2,3.4; Triangle of Terror 1.2,3.4

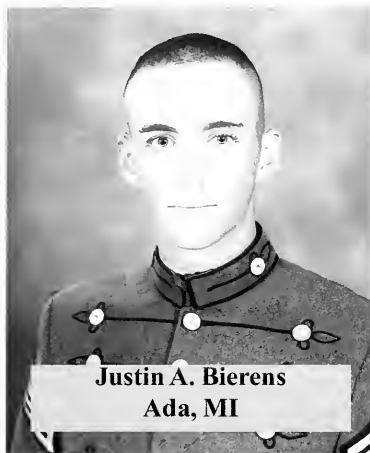
*2001 - Sungho Pak
2007 - Mike Golike, Braden Orr,
Tim Labresh*

*1995 - Mike Blankenship, Simon Cheng
2007 - Stefan Dietrich, Will Doyle*

*2001 - Rusty Briley
2007 - Russ Henriet, Charles Nweke*

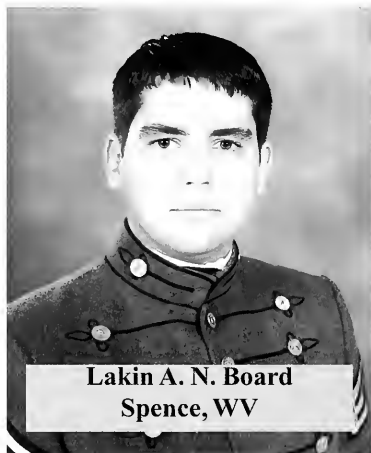


BETTER WOMEN ARE MADE V.M.I. MEN WILL MAKE



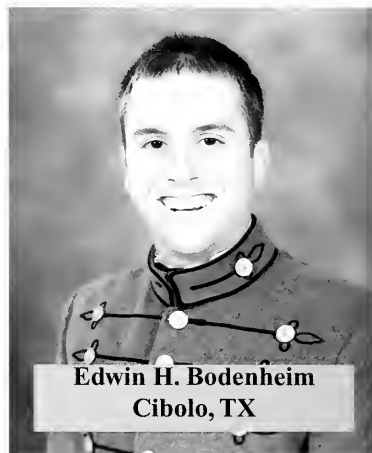
Justin A. Bierens
Ada, MI

Army - International Studies



Lakin A. N. Board
Spence, WV

*"Board, Eeyore"
Air Force - History*



Edwin H. Bodenheim
Cibolo, TX

*"Eddie We, Face #2, Bodensh**", Ebbie, Bodie, hoe B"
Army - Computer Science*

To my parents, my rats, my roommates and friends: It has been a bittersweet four years. Mom and Dad, without your persistent guidance and love I would never have made it to the point at which I now find myself. Your endless praise of my endeavors and fierce devotion to God has given me incredible strength over the years. Anthony and Jon, don't be discouraged by the trivial occurrences in your four years here. Make it what you want it to be, strive to be the best in all that you do, and imbue into your character the traditions VMI has at its core: Country, Honor, Duty, and Discipline. Nate and Charlie, from our adventures in Morocco to our epic trips in Lex Vegas, we were always together. Thanks for being such great friends. Keith, Gordie, Joe, Bryan, and Dennis: the constant humor, weekends, and abiding friendship made many of the hard times much easier. Whether it was mocking Gordie or harassing Keith, we always seemed to have a good time and make the best out of it all. My thanks go out to Captain De Varona and the Ranger Challenge team. Many good painful and sweat filled times, easily some of my best at the Institute. Col. Brodie, without your uplifting attitude and spirit the hard times would have seemed unbearable, thanks for a great four years with the Band. I will leave VMI with a strong sense of honor, a hardened character, a love of learning, a love for my country, and perseverance. All of these characteristics will guide me for the rest of my life and for that I am grateful to the Institute.

Cpl 3; 1st Sgt 2; Band CO 1; Ranger Company 4,3,2; Ranger Challenge 3,2

First...thank you God for without you none of this would have been possible. About a hundred thousand thanks, or more, to Dad and Mom. Thanks for the faith and the constant caring ear. Thanks to my Grandparents, Opie, Blanche, Bob and Freeda, for providing great influence. It seems as though my time here at the Institute has taken an Eternity. An eternity of uphill battles that couldn't be won. So many times I have wished I went to school somewhere else or just had been somewhere else, or as impossible as we all know it would be that something...anything around this damn place would have made sense or was fair. On the upside I gained some really good friends here, Pete Burke, Mike Roscoe, Jason Boone, Kevin Srait, Rob Metz, Geoff Peltier, Bob Downey, Glenn Walton, Scott Campbell, Matt Vogel, Ryan Walker, and in the past year Ed and Andy as well as all my other Brother Rats. Thanks fellas for the good times and the other bullet sweating memories. I can't forget those '05 guys Morris, Belotti, Rankin, and Viar. Thank you to my may for the needed rest: it afforded me especially when unauthorized. To the Rats of 176: Pat, Kenny, Alex, Justin, Matt, Ryan and Jack, I've tried to mentor you the best I could. You are all capable of doing anything you could ever want to do. Don't let anything stop you. To my dykes, Steve, Tom and Josh, you were the older brothers I never had, thanks. I've learned quite a bit here at the "I", dealing with people who you don't want to deal with, acquiring a unique sense of humor and that discipline thing as well. Thanks to all who aided me in my quest for the diploma and good luck to everyone.

Accountability Scapegoat 3; Guide SGT 2; Platoon LT 1; Treated "Fairly" by Commandant's Office 1,2,3,4; Assistant Parade Narrator 2; AAAA 2,3; Aviation Club 4; From West By God 1,2,3,4

In the past four years I have inevitably decided that the individualistic stoicism of most cadets at VMI has completely ruined the experience of such aspects of fun, excitement, or pleasure at VMI. This neo monistic outlook on life at VMI only helps to degrade one's individuality, thus processing a form of some oppressed post modernistic personality and influence on the lives of most sane cadets. For this I raise my finger to VMI and say cheers; thanks for the hardship, constant paranoia, and few laughs in which I inexplicably experienced over my four year tenure at the Institute. I am happy to say that a belief in a better life was not completely lost during my stay here at the Institute. Through the underground works of the revolutionary persons involved in the "circle of trust," I have managed to get away with few close call situations that unexpectedly arose during my cadetship. I would like to take this time to thank the few that helped me achieve such goals in include graduating, not getting suspended, and beating the system. To Ross Davis, thank you for getting me through the tough times, the loss of friends who fell victim to the various eyes of the Institute, the simple problems that arise in everyday life at VMI, and for simply putting up with my rants, attitude, and paranoia. To my brother and his roommates for bringing constant trouble and unfixable problems to my doorstep, without y'all I probably would not have had anything to do, or any people to save. To Mrs. P. Maj. T. and Col. L. thank you all for helping me get through all four years of VMI, without constant pushing from each of you, my stay here at VMI would have been short lived. To Swat Team Six and all law abiding locked on cadets, GFY. To mom, dad, Chris and Laura I made it. I love ya'll.

Soccer 1, boxing 4, LCST 1, 2, 3, 4

*2001 - John Niederhaus
2007 - Anthony Bradley, Jon Pool*

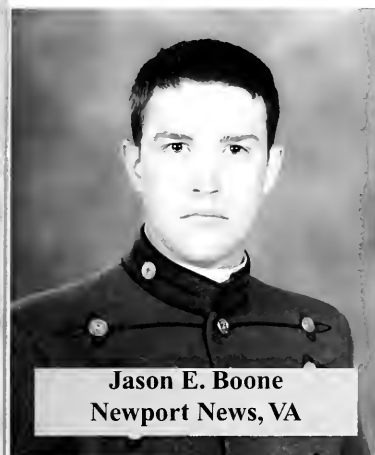


*2001 - Steve Dugan and Tom Cornell
2007 - Pat "Dead Eye" Young, Kenny
"K-MAC" McWilliams*



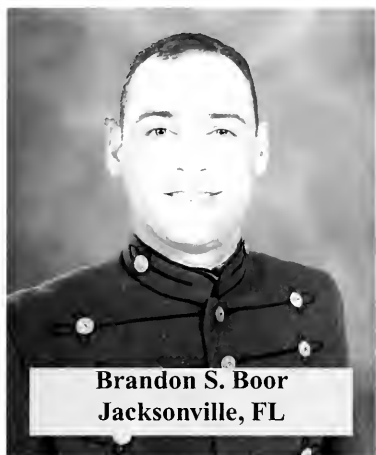
*2001 - Dork
2007 - Rollie, Caveman, Yellowstar,
Original face, Kyle*





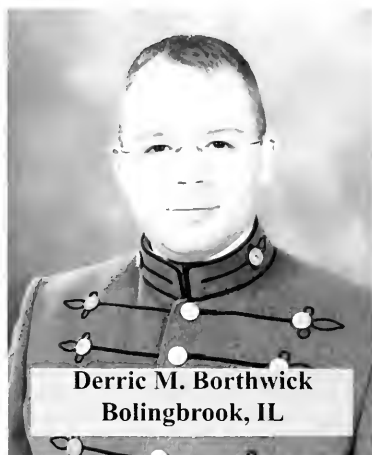
Jason E. Boone
Newport News, VA

"Boone-O"
Navy - History



Brandon S. Boor
Jacksonville, FL

"Boor Boor, Timothy, Boor the Clown, B-Boor"
Army - Business and Economics



Derric M. Borthwick
Bolingbrook, IL

"Pork Chop, Col. B. Borty, Zoolander"
Marine Corps - Chemistry

It's been 4 years since I first walked through Jackson Arch. Looking back there is a lot that can be said about the hardships and experiences that I have endured. At times, like every cadet, I hated the place; others times it was a place where I had a lot of great times and could find my best friends. All along the way, there were always people there supporting me. Mom, Dad, Megan, Mommom and Poppop- you have always been there for me and saw me through the toughest times, thanks; I love you all. Gary- three years it's been fun. Mike, Kevin all the good times in barracks and uptown it is what made this place bearable. Metz, Smitty, Oz and all the other guys take it easy and good luck. I've finally made it, I'm outta here.

Boor. Rarely has one word, let alone one last name had so many functions and meant so much. We first got to know Boor when we were dyking in the Frat, and we were all initially intimidated by his strapping figure and retreating hairline. Boor just seemed to look older than the rest of us. However, as the years progressed, we were very fortunate to discover the whole Boor. Brandon started his career at VMI on the wrong note, first by befriendng Mikula (guilty by association) and then by drawing the ire of the Blevins brothers. But he persevered. Much of rat and third class year was spent infiltrating the minks at Dubyunell where Brandon first learned the fine art of making a spectacle of himself. "What about the beds?" These years also served to hone Brandon's ability to make outrageous comments, a skill he would improve throughout his cadetship. Second and first class years were spent pulling all-nighters, singing for the Col., and leaving school consistently with 74 demos. Brandon's legacy at the Institute will include his passion for VMI athletics, his great taste in music, his reputation as a ladies man, and the fact that he is a flat out good guy that got along with just about everyone. It has been said that the best part about VMI are the friendships you make here. That is certainly the case for anyone who has known Brandon well over the last four years. Quite simply he is one of the best people that we have ever met. Funny, upbeat, honest, forgiving, and loyal. Brandon embodies each of these traits. It has been an absolute pleasure to live with him for virtually the last four years. Brandon, we wish the best for you in all your future endeavors, you will certainly be successful. The Army better watch out because they are getting a great leader and a great friend. Thanks for putting up with us. Brothers for life.

Virgin Private; Dean's List; Army Scholarship 2.1; Cadet Investment Group 2.1; Pre-Law Society 1; Rugby 3.2; NCAA Swim Team 4; VPO 1; Big Red 4.3.2.1; Ring Figure Committee 2

I could go with convention and say, "Well, this is it" but it's really not. After these four years, I feel I can finally get on with my life in a new beginning. I will also be leaving this place as a different person than when I matriculated here. I would be the first to curse this place and the Administration, but learned that everything happens for a reason. Being the scientific person I am, I had not accepted this and felt there is an explanation for everything, which is not true. All the tribulations and crap that I endured could be considered a small price to pay for all that has come to me in the four years of my cadetship. Failure and hardship have been instrumental to the development of who I am, and I am thankful to that. However, it would be wrong not to mention the ones that endured with me: brother rats, family, and friends all making a difference in my life. I thank you. Therefore, I leave this place with the intention to make a difference in others' lives and ensure my one chance at life means something to me and those who helped me get here. To Kristen: I love you so much and look forward to spending my life making you happy. To 109 rats: Originally I didn't want any rats because I thought it was just another thorn in my ass or an excuse for the Admin to screw me, but I'm glad I shared my last year here with you all. I wouldn't change a thing. You all have exceeded my expectations and I don't believe I have seen the last of it. Keep on impressing me and the people important to you in your lives. I know you will all do well. Good luck, and I'll see you around. To my 109 roomies: All I have to say is, GOOD TIMES!! GOOD TIMES!! ...*tink*

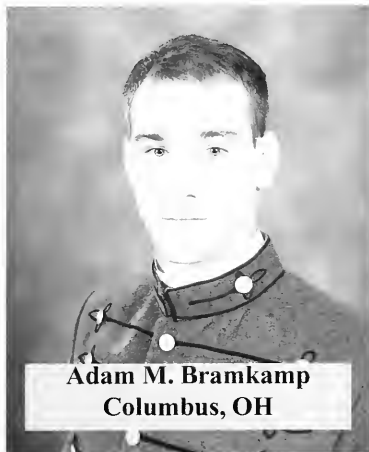
Reg. Crpl. 3; Plt. Sgt. 2; First Class Private; American Chemical Society 4.3, secretary 2; president 1; Semper Fi Society 4.3.2; Jackson Hope Scholar 2; Dean's List 2; Ranger Company 4; Cadet Investment Group 1; Marathon Team 3.2.1

2001 - Jake Williams
2007 - Nick Tommaso

2001 - Tappan August
2007 - Tommy Catlett

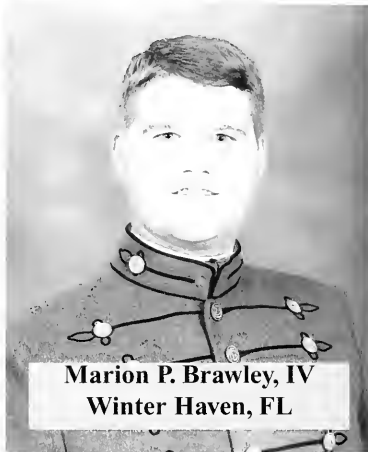
2007 - Jeff Choma, Kathleen Krenzle,
Hunter Phillips





Adam M. Bramkamp
Columbus, OH

Army - Economics and Business



Marion P. Brawley, IV
Winter Haven, FL

Marine Corps - History



Jason R. Brightwell
Glen Allen, VA

Army - Psychology

VMI has been the longest, most trying four-year test of my life. When I decided to attend VMI late in the spring of my senior year of prep school, I could not have made a more out of character decision. As a shaggy haired, madras wearing, leisure Florida boy, Hampton-Sydney's fraternity row seemed the place for me, not Lecture Avenue. Over the last four years I have butted heads excessively with the administration to the point where the Commandant's office must cringe when they hear the name Brawley. It has been an up hill battle from the beginning, and I am grateful for all those who have helped me along the way. To my dykes: Matthew, Armi, KP, Charlie, Brad, and Hump a special thanks for making my rat year, hands down, the most fun of them all. Chuck, I appreciate the apartment. To my dear friends of '04 I am in debt to you all! To Malact, Ferrell, Will, Sloan, Jay, Mo, Doug, Eddie, Steve, Leo and Pat if it weren't for y'all I would not be here today, thank you all for everything! To my great friend Brian who perhaps tried the system more than I, thank you for always being there, keep your nose clean B. Leo, Mo, and Goodall I've missed you all this year, good luck in the Fall. Doug, I'll never forget Key West Spring Break 2003, how boughcha Bud. To the rats of S-15: Ryan, Brian, Brandon, and Anthony thanks for everything, you are all great guys, stick together, and good luck with the rest of it. To my family: Frank, William, Mary, Mom and Dad I cannot thank you enough for the support you have given me. Thank you for always being there for me, I am grateful for every one of you. I love you all! To those of a similar background, I bid you good luck. Find the humor in it and you will do fine.

Lacrosse: 3, 4; Sports Medicine: 1

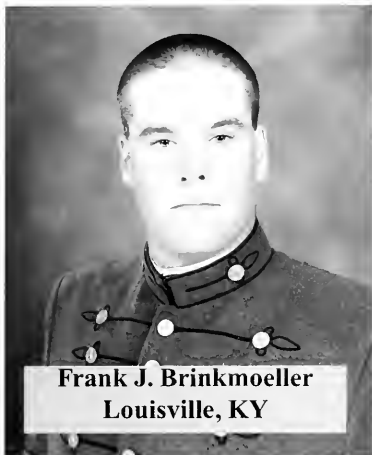
I came to VMI because I knew in my heart from the moment I heard about it - even when I didn't know anything about this place - that it was where I had to go. I was in JROTC, so a military college was a natural choice. On Rat Sunday, the chaplain was up front speaking in JM Hall, and I got this deep feeling like there was this huge hole in my heart that had been covered up, but that the cover was now removed. It was then that I heard God speaking to my heart, "That is where I am supposed to be, and I'm not." That touched me so deeply that it brought me to tears. However, after that day, I more or less passed it off, but the hole was still empty. Fast forwarding to second semester, Sacred Assembly, first weekend of the year, I'm straining in the salad bar, and this upperclassman comes up to me and says, "Jesus loves you." I said, "Yes sir," but my thoughts were more like "get out of here, you weirdo." He responded by saying, "You know that, right?" And once again I said, "Yes sir." After dinner, I was in my dyke's room wondering if I should go to the praise/worship concert that night. I said to myself, "If someone told me that any other day of the year, I wouldn't worry about it. But since it happened tonight, and I'm thinking about going to the concert, I'll go ahead and go. Nothing to lose." At the concert, God showed me that He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to die for my sins, and that by only believing in that truth was I able to be forgiven and have my eternal destiny secured. I woke up the next morning more alive than I'd ever felt before. "Live freely, animated, and motivated by God's Spirit." ~ Galatians 5: 16 MSG

Dean's list 3,2,1; Triathlon club 4; Powerlifting Club 3; Boxing Club 1; Academic Mentor 2; Band's-2 rep 2; IBN Color SGT 2; IBN S-7 LT 1; Summer Theatre 2003

2001 - Matthew Gehring
2007 - Ryan Young

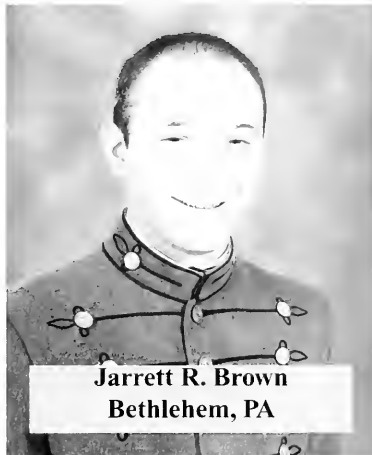
2001 - Steve Skakandy
2007 - Joe Cassin, Colleen Redmond





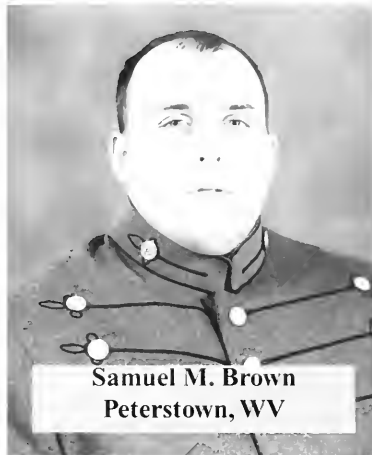
Frank J. Brinkmoeller
Louisville, KY

Navy - Civil Engineering



Jarrett R. Brown
Bethlehem, PA

Army - History



Samuel M. Brown
Peterstown, WV

"Professor"
Army - Psychology

It has been a long but quick four years. I met a lot of nice people and made many new friends. Thanks mom and dad for supporting me these past four years. Thanks to everyone else that has helped me in some way. The golf team was great. Some of my best experiences and most lasting memories are traveling and playing golf with you guys. The golf team will always live on!

The past four years here have taken more from me than I can express. My happiness, my youth, my heart, and my will to live. I have been surrounded by sheep and cattle that blindly follow the herd and that look down upon those who do not. I would be in error in not saying that VMI has changed many faults I possessed. Most importantly it has strengthened my faith in Him, and given me the ability to question everything and exercise free will, however limited it may be. I find it difficult to say that I hate VMI, because I feel that I was guided hereby Him, but I do. And at this point I feel that I always will. To those who understand how I feel I wish you a life of leisure for all the hard times you have endured with me, and I'll see you on the other side. Remember, the first step from the misery of hell is the first step toward heaven. To all of those who do not understand what I feel, well... I don't care, for you meant nothing to me and will always mean nothing to me. Long live the Scuba and Juice Wiesel. Thank you to all my family for the love and support that I never earned or deserved. (Suicidal thought of the last four years: The only escape is at the far end of the distant future - the faint light of freedom that men call death.)

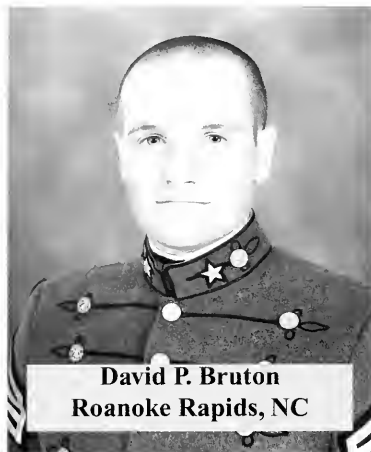
Golf Team-1,2,3,4; Virginia History Society-1,2
Dean's List-3,2,1

Football 4,3,2,1

2001 - Scott Presser
2007 - Woddsworth Bugg IV

2001 - Ryan Cates
2007 - Seth Richardson





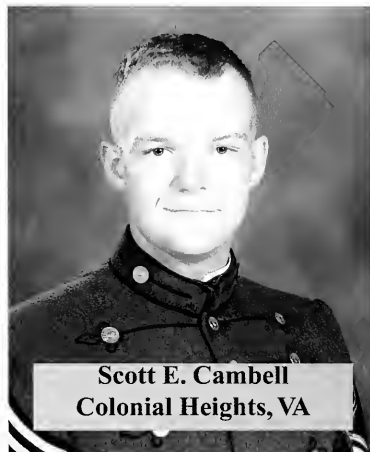
David P. Bruton
Roanoke Rapids, NC

Army- Economics



Jason M. Cage
Mechanicsville, VA

Army- Civil Engineering



Scott E. Cambell
Colonial Heights, VA

*"Mother Goose, Old Man, General
Army - English*

It has been good. This place has been good to me. That's not to say there haven't been hard times and struggles, but I've certainly learned a lot about myself and about friendship. Thank you to all my friends who stood beside me through all the changes that the Lord made in my life. Thanks to my roommates in "Dirty C-30," the guys next door, and to our rats. Steve "Biggie" Kaufman, thanks for making me play rugby. We've missed you. Here is my advice, don't let VMI make you bitter. VMI is what you make it, nothing more, nothing less. Enjoy your time here. Face it, when else will you have the chance to live with your best friends.

Now here is some real advice:

"I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." Philippians 4:11-13

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." Jeremiah 29:11-13

"But whatever will be my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ..." Philippians 3:7,8

Cadre 3,2,1; Rugby 3,2,1; CIG 2,1

The only thing that makes these four years worth the pain is the friendships that you make. Daniel and Jason, I couldn't ask for better roommates...even though Daniel is the loudest snoring cadet in the corps. I will miss you guys. Congratulations to the Base Co. 1st classmen. We started the best company on the hill! To my rats Chad, Sean, Casey and David, live these four years to their fullest because they will soon be gone. I would like to give a heartfelt thank you to my family for supporting me through the years and coming up to visit, so that this place was more bearable for me. To Emily, coming to see you on the weekend was the only thing that got me through each week. Farewell VMI.

"But I firmly believe that any man's finest hour, his greatest fulfillment of all he holds dear, is the moment when he has worked his heart out in a good cause and lies on the field of battle victorious."

Vince Lombardi

Baseball - 4,3,2,1; Tau Beta Pi - 3,2,1

I came to VMI knowing little more about this "starchy old school" than one can learn walking the "twenty five cent tour" and a few "Old Corps" stories. I remember the glint in my father's eyes when I decided to come here and the sound of horror in my grandmother's voice. The words of Revelations and Dante rung in my ears long after "Hell Week." The voices of my cadre and my master sergeant's eyes are forever etched into my mind. I can recall doing pushups in a pool of my own sweat and cold rain swearing that I was leaving after breakout. I also recall doing pushups in a new pool of my own sweat and cold rain the next night swearing that there was no way in hell I was leaving without my ring and my diploma. That was only the beginning. I finished my rat year without a single demerit and more determined than ever to succeed regardless of what stood in my way. I discovered the wonders of confinement and PTs as a third. A year later, I now wore The Ring, even with the new dent in the side, and started counting the days until graduation. The time has passed quickly as I look back on the past four years. Even with the hardships, and the frustrations I would not trade the experiences I have gained here for anything! I can not thank my family enough for all they have done. Jason and Tyler, I owe you my sanity. To everyone else who has helped to pull me along, you are not forgotten, nor will you be, and I thank you. Robert Frost once wrote that the road less traveled made all the difference. He had the right idea, if he had only taken it a little further. "Two roads diverged in a yellow wood," and from whence I passed now there are three, and that has made all the difference. Keep the Faith."

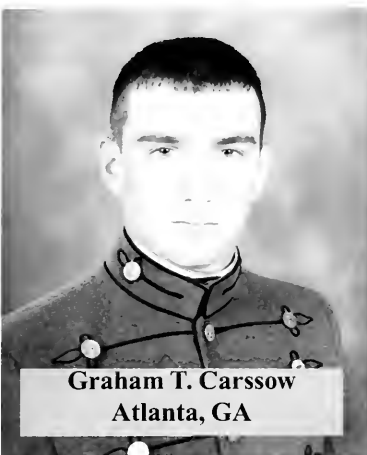
Hotel Rat, CPL, 2nd PLT SGT, 2nd BATT S-3 LT, VLP 2,3; RUGBY 2

2001 - Charlie Benbow
2007 - Marc Daniel

2001 - Adam Maldonado
2007 - Sean Seawell
Chad (Wice) Rice

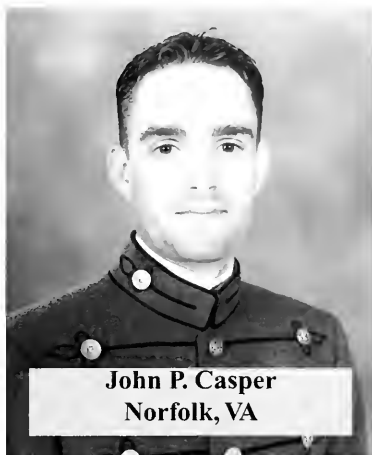
2001 - John C. Parson
2007 - Evan Hanks, Justin P. Chetney





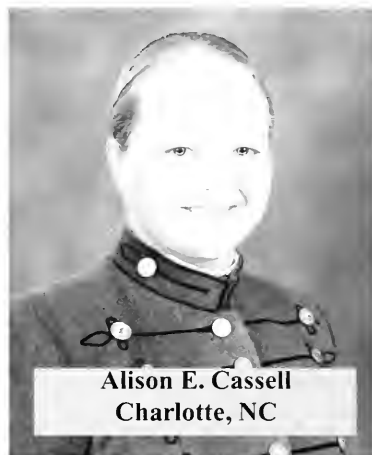
Graham T. Carsow
Atlanta, GA

"The Hippy, Mystery Machine, T.I.T."
Army - Business and Economics



John P. Casper
Norfolk, VA

"Johnny C"
Army - English



Alison E. Cassell
Charlotte, NC

Army - Psychology

We came here for many different reasons. We came from many different states and countries. We came from many different backgrounds: rich, poor, southern, northern, liberal, and republican. Some of us came for Sports, some came for the Military Services, some came for the diploma, others for the ring, and from the lowliest Rat to the highest ranking 1st-classman, from the greatest athlete to the most overweight cadet, we are still bonded together with one universal thing we all know: This place sucks. I don't mean sucks like "Dude, That sucks!" I mean like the Hindenburg disaster sucks. Like "there's a comet the size of Nebraska on a collision course with the earth" sucks. So every time you ever feel down, that you are the bug to life's windshield, just remember that you are not as dumb as me, and you did not come to VMI. Thank you. "The harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly; it is dearness only that gives everything its value. I love the man that can smile in trouble, that can gather strength from distress and grow brave by reflection. 'Tis the business of little minds to shrink, but he whose heart is firm, and whose conscience approves his conduct, will pursue his principles unto death." - Thomas Paine "I regret that I have but one life to give for my country." - Nathan Hale I figure my first paragraph best exemplifies what I really think of this place, but I would like to thank VMI for two things. First, for giving me the opportunity to meet and become close friends with some of the greatest people I have ever known, people who exemplify everything that still remains right with this world in everything they do. Second, for allowing me to do this even though I'm not actually graduating yet. Rah Virginia Nil, I'm outta here.

Bloodmobile ACIC 1,2; Boxing Team 3; Rat Challenge Platoon Lt. 1; Ranker 2,3 Guide-on Bearer 1; Military Officers Association of America awardee 2.

As I look back on my time at VMI, I couldn't imagine myself anywhere else. Mom and Dad, I love you so much. Thank you for the all the support. Dad, I still can't believe you wrote me a letter everyday of the Rat Line. Bravo Company, thanks for all the support while I was injured. To the OGA, it was a pleasure serving with you all. Andy, you're destined to be a great leader. You've been a true inspiration. TBM, thanks for all your advice and humor. To the girls of 2004, my job put me in a difficult position sometimes - sorry if I was short with any of you. To my co-dykes, I couldn't have made it without you. Alex, try not to work out too much. Dave, best wishes to you and your fiancé. To my dykes, I couldn't ask for better mentors. To my Rat, Dan, you've made it. Stay strong and keep your sense of humor - you'll be just fine. To the rest of my Rats, thanks for all the laughs and good times. I learned as much from you as you did from me. To Ben and Slava, you are two of the most genuine people I've ever met. To Mike, I'm having a moment right now. To Jimmy, I only wish I met you sooner. You're one of my best friends. To Lauren, I can't wait to see where we go. To my roommates, I couldn't ask for better friends. Chris, best of luck to you with your girl and USMC. Tim, I haven't got the words - thanks. Chad, what can I say, this is just the beginning of a beautiful friendship. Class of 2004, I've seen and heard a lot during my time on the OGA and I can sincerely say... we are one of the best classes to pass through these walls in Institute history. God bless my family, friends, and the class of 2004

OGA Vice-Pres 1; Dyke Committee Co-Chairman 1; EC Chairman for Prosecution 1; Dean's List 1,2,3; National Dean's List 1,2,3; Ring Figure Committee 3,2; Drill Team 3

"Character cannot be developed in ease and quiet. Only through experience of trial and suffering can the soul be strengthened, ambition inspired, and success achieved." For varied reasons, we made the choice to take the "road less traveled." Now we've reached the end of the road - a little smarter, a little older, perhaps a little more mature. For me, it was the people, not the place that I gained the most from. Mom and Dad: thank you for teaching that with God in my heart and my family behind me, I can accomplish anything I want. I love y'all. Jason: Watching you, I learned the importance of persistence (and not to trust liberals). I've always appreciated and needed your support and advice. Maureen and Bob: I can't thank you enough for your unconditional love and support. Illegitimus non carborundum. Bubba: Only God knows what's in store for us in the future, but the door to my house and heart will always be open. Natasha: There are no words that can express how much I appreciate, respect and admire you. Thanks for everything. Erica: never compromise who you are for who others want you to be. You're one of the most caring and genuine people that I've ever met. Shelley: "The greatest part of our happiness or misery depends upon our dispositions and not upon our circumstances." Good luck in the future. Pei-chun: Thanks for the last 4 years. If you ever need me, just ask. Girls of '04: We've caused more mayhem in 4 years than Lexington will probably ever see! Jimmy: It's the people that you can count on at 3 AM that matter. Thanks. Tennille and Kim: I sincerely want to say thank you. Haley: You're an amazing woman in your own way. Stay true to yourself and those you're close to. H8 Rats: Good luck. I know you'll succeed in whatever you put your minds to.

NCAA Track 4; Varsity Women's Soccer 3,2 NCMT Cadre 3,2; Dean's List 1, First Class Private

2001 - Seth Ford
2007 -



2001 - Rich Groen
2007 - Daniel "kye-go with you?"
Hennelly



2001 - Tennille Chisholm, Kim
Herbert, Angela Winters
2007 - Haley Gross, Jorden Reed



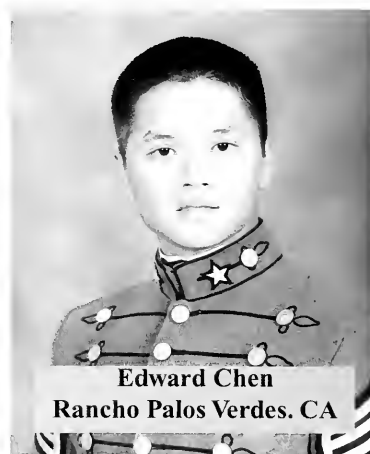


David E. Casteel
Loveland, OH

Army - Psychology



Maja Cavilovic



Edward Chen
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA

*"Chino, Junior, Ro Mercado, Fast Eddie, Dong Sai"
Army - Business and Economics*

I have to begin first by thanking my family. Dad and Mom, I want to thank you for always being there for me. I could not have done it without you giving me all of your support and also that little extra push that I needed from time to time. To my sister, thanks for always being there for me when I had no one else to turn to. You always knew the best for me. Another thanks needs to go out to my favorite Aunt, Jackie, for all her love and support and to my Uncle, Eddie, who will always be in my heart. Finally, I want to say thanks to my girlfriend, Jenna. Honey, I could not have made it through my last year without you in my life. You were always there for me no matter what, always giving me that extra shove to finish out strong. I love you all! I cannot say thanks enough.

As far as the school itself goes, I sincerely have no opinion about it. I went here for four years, both listened and bent the rules and that's it. I have no affiliation with the school, mine lays with the people that went, and are still going to it.

To all of them, with no difference given to if they like me, love me, hate me, or were indifferent to my existence: I wish them all the best in their lives. To all the ones that made an impact on my life, I will remember you always, the good and the bad. Without you, I wouldn't be the person I am today. Some, I loved, some, I disliked, some I never really knew, but whoever you are, know there is a piece of you in me.

A special thanks goes to my host family that made me feel at home.

However, my heart was always in Croatia, and I am grateful to my Bozica, Janko, and Monika that always stood behind me, and were always there for me, although 5000 miles away.

*"Hasta la Victoria siempre!"
Ernesto "Che" Guevara*

*"Hajde, pusti kose pune polena, znam da krijes
cardas u time lepim nogama"
Dordje Balasevic*

VMI huh?... I must say traveling half way around the world to a Southern Military School is probably the biggest gamble I ever made. Fortunately, I won this bet. Even though being here is miserable, I must thank VMI for the lessons and experiences I went through. Being here these past four years gave me a direction and an idea of what kind of a person I want to be. It is here that I discovered who I wanted to emulate and who I didn't. Before the "I" honor did not mean much to me, it was just a word that popped up once in a while. But now it is a lifestyle. It is also to the credit of the Institute that I made some life long friendships with people I have never thought I would meet... from the Bumpkins of Virginia to the K's of Thailand. VMI is indeed a milestone in my life, the cost of being locked in the mountains of Virginia for four years is far less then the benefits I have already felt. And I am certain there are still more to come. Sometimes I can't believe myself for saying this, but VMI to me is one of America's best kept secrets. I guess only being able to see the light at the end of the VMI experience can one consider this statement. But at the end, like many, none of us would ever regret coming to our alma mater.

I would just like to finish up my history by thanking the most important people in my life, my family and my friends... Mom and Dad thanks for letting me choose VMI and the military... Linko, Special K, Roads, Hamilton and Ropp thanks for the support and the good times we had together. Gentlemen of the Honor Court thanks for giving me the opportunity to serve with men like you. Rats of C-31 Good Luck! It's worth it! Keep the Faith... Chino

Honor Court Assistant Prosecutor and Vice President 2,1; Echo 5th and 3rd Corporal, Reg Sgt. Maj; First Battalion XO; First Battalion CO; Class Treasurer; CIG XO; CIG VP; Dean's list 4,3,2,1, Ac Stars 3,2,1; Honor Program, Honor Societies: Head Asian

Football 4,3,2,1 Division I-AA Four Year Varsity Letter Man

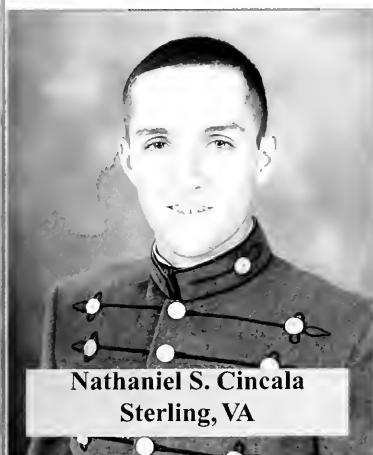
Boxing team 1,2; Dean's list 1,2,3,4 English society 2,3; Timmins Gentry Music Society 2,3

*2001 - Lee Harrison
2007 - Eric Hall*

2001 - Gussie Lord

*2001 - Dan Lee, Mike Martin
2007 - Mike Tu*





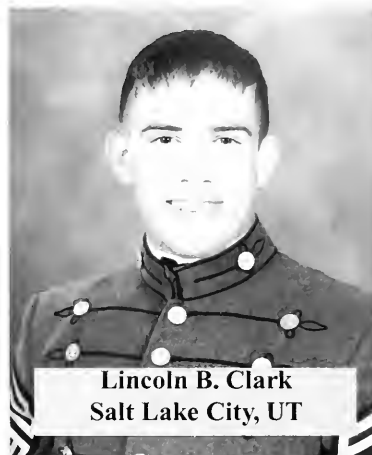
Nathaniel S. Cincala
Sterling, VA

"Cineco, Old Bitter Man, Jew, The Mad Scatter"
Army-History



Emanuel J. CuidadReal
Fort Lee, NJ

"C-U dad, Real-Deal, Bass-Face Monkey"
Army- Economics



Lincoln B. Clark
Salt Lake City, UT

Army- Economics

Proceed with caution. The Old Bitter Man will get you. From the early days of Nate breaking his balls on the stoop, supporting Bravo ("You weren't there!"). Nate has always had panache for cheap liquor and crazy times. Part of the original 211 Air Assault Team, Nate has also been known as the "Mad Scatter." "That's not sh** on my hay! Look guys, I stepped in poop! George, you're going to have to carry me." Hardcore and scarily quiet (at least until he gets drunk). Nate always greeted VMI with a smile, a happy phrase, and hammer blows to his own body: "I hate you all. First you stick me near the door, and then you hang your sh** next to my bed. I might as well sleep in the trashcan."

But besides exhibiting his harsh exterior of granite, Nate has always had the heart of a true Brother Rat. He may hate you, but he'll help you out. Never did he leave a BR hanging. From the Ratline, to Prague, to Ring Figure, to First Class Year, Nate always looked out for his friends, even though he wanted to kill them (especially when you knock out his two front teeth ... sorry Nate). He finally chose Army over Air Force, and one day Nate will single-handedly kill a small nation, just because he didn't like them.

A few memories of Nate will live forever: losing his teeth, our campfire experience at Panther Falls, drinking before games and between classes, hanging like a monkey with a bottle of JD from his ceiling, random shouts of hatred and death, just to name a few. You're a true BR and best friend. You will be missed. Oh, and don't worry, if we're around, we'll be at your funeral.

I can't believe that four years have gone by so quickly. It feels like yesterday we were still in the ratline. I guess I will start off thanking those who help me ENDURE this place. I would like to thank God and my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. To my mom, sister, and nephew, I would like to thank you for your support over the past four years. I can't forget those who had a direct effect during my cadetship. To Brian, Dennis, Ben, Jon, and Chip, thanks for your friendship. To Kenny, thanks for all times we studied in Scott Shipp and your advice on certain matters (you know the LANDMINE and other concerns like it). To Graham, thanks for all those crazy moments and cigarettes we shared. Good luck in the Army. To Dave C., I couldn't have asked for a better co-dyke. I wish you the best of luck at Law School. I would like to thank you, Slav. You are the greatest friend that anyone can have and there is only one thing that sums it up, John 15: 13. In final thought, this place is truly Hell in every sense. I almost hated every moment at this institute. I have experienced the worst moments and the worst people in my life, here. Yet, I was able to meet some of the greatest people on this planet. If it weren't for you guys, I definitely would not have put with place. I am sure God will allow us to meet again someday. Until that moment, Good Luck and God Bless!

P.S. I didn't forget you, Sophien. I hope God bless you in your future.

Chino, K, and Dennis you are my boys. I will never forget the rubber band wars, ramen noodles, K's TOEFL, and Dennis being Euro Trash. Chino thanks so much for your example and friendship. Being your friend has been such a blessing in my life. Cox hanging out and studying with you has been great. Wully, you were the first person I met when I got to VMI. I am so thankful for that. Rushin, thanks for being my friend from day one and giving me a place to stay. Frat Row, HYAAAAAAA! I love you guys. Hanging out with you all during hell week, playing College Football, and stooping was the best. Big Oaks, chillin' with you over the summer was epic. "Punch me in the stomach!" I will never forget that. Corrado you have been the best weight lifting partner and friend I could ever ask for. Taco Bell, Piano Key Neck Ties, and the Woo Woo. That is all I have to say besides, Romeo Tango and RTBR. Jordan, Ezra, Dallas, Stillman, my hero's, my brother's, and now my brother rats. I love you guys so much. Words cannot describe the bond we share. I look forward to an eternity of telling Rat Line stories with you all. Amber, Kesi, and Mary Eden thank you for always being there for me. Ross and Eliza you all have hearts of gold. Thanks so much for helping me while I was in London. COL Duncan, COL Bush thank you for being the great men and professors you are. COL Sexton, I don't know how I could have survived that past four years without you always being there for me. Lastly, Danielle, I love you. What a roller coaster we have been on. The feeling of being in love with you is indescribable and irreplaceable and I will always cherish it. You are the love of my life. I'm out!

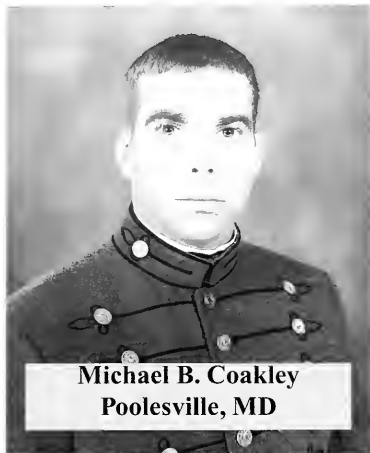
Brother Rat CLAP! CLAP!

Club Soccer: 4; Bravo Co. Softball and Football: 3,2; Ranger Company: 1; Rat Challenge: 1; Lance Corporal: 3; HNT Charter Member: 2,1; Co-Captain of the VMI Drinking Team: 4,3,2,1; Window Air Assault Team: 2; Shaft Miner, 1; 2Hoah Trunk Club, 1.

Glee Club 4,3 Brown-Shirt Club 2,1, Late Nite Studying in Scott Shipp 4,3,2,1

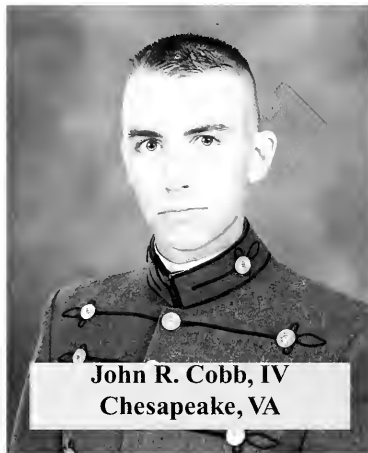
2001 - Bill Harley
2007 - Troy "The Molester" Nold





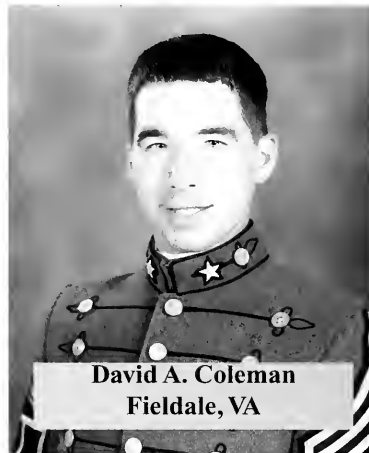
Michael B. Coakley
Poolesville, MD

"Coakdawg, Dex, Iron Mike, Sober Mike"
Army- History



John R. Cobb, IV
Chesapeake, VA

"Gaddy's Rat"
Navy- Math



David A. Coleman
Fieldale, VA

Army- Business and Economics

As Mike's time at the Institute comes to a close, he will have left his mark on the lives of many people, but none so than mine. It must have all started with that "scarf" third class year, something we both laughed at. This laughter turned into friendship and in turn, that friendship became a brotherhood. Mike has been like a brother to me, as we have dealt with the emotional roller coaster of VMI. Through girl problems, to helping each other get through difficult classes, and giving each other something to laugh at on those God awful VMI bad days. Mike has always been there for me. I'll never forget our baseball conversations, road trips to other colleges, rolling up to Radford with 40's, beating beer-pong champions, the day "Sober Mike" was born, and of course our last spring break in the Bahamas. Whatever Mike decides to do after VMI I know he'll take his hard work ethic with him and be very successful. It was a hell-of-a 4 years with you at VMI. I couldn't imagine the difficulties without. Thanks for everything Mike...the good times, the bad times, and the sweetttt times.

Baseball- 4,3,2; Brotha Iz: 2,1

To begin, I first want to apologize to my BR's for that night in November of 2000 when I went uptown in civies, and gave Dave Nagle yet another reason to give us a sweat party. Despite the many death threats I received that evening, we still made it through. And now, we are getting that piece of paper (or for those of us who spent a ridiculous amount of money; that piece of sheep skin) on May 13th. Congratulations to the Rat Mass of 2001-3 or the VMI Class of 2004! We will always remember the events that shaped our cadetships; from Matriculation to Breakout (with the 31 sweat parties), to the USS COLE (DDG 67) and SEPT 11, 2001. To LCDR David Williams '91, Capt. John Teal '94 & 1st Lt. Josh Hurley '01, we will never forget you. We all remember General Jumper '66 presenting Rubin's parents with his Ring while Joe was down in Cuba and our Rats finally showing up along with General Peay '62. Much has happened in our four years at the Institute, but it has gone by fast. I want to say a few words to the people that have helped me get through this horrifying, miserable, terrifying, but overall good experience. Tom & Jason: So we never really got along. Tom tried to throw me out the window, but enlisting on Valentine's Day can do that to a person. RM 324: I hate the Beatles now & I own an iPod? Brad: I will never forgive you for the Doherty Experience. Joey: I will never forget getting lost coming back from Stonehenge, losing a hubcap, and running out of gas all the while on the wrong side of the road (Sorry about the hostel in London as well.) Den-Ice: The flat tire & St. Patty's Day 2003! Bryan: I hate Solids! Jillian: Thank you, enough said. BP & Sputnik: Remember 2004. Be Proud of 2007, and get ready for 2010. Finally, Mom, Dad, & Braden: I love you.

CE (4,3), MA (2,1), X-C/Indoor Track (4,3), Equestrian Team (2), Rat Challenge Cadre (2), Pipe Band (4,3,2,1), MIDN BN SGTMRJ (1)

It is hard to grasp that my time here is up. First and foremost I want to thank God for giving me this opportunity and guiding me along. I also have to thank my mom and brother for their unwavering support. Looking back I have absolutely no idea of why I came here. However, I'm thankful I did. Though miserable at times (a lot of the time), VMI has taught us those many intangible qualities that our contemporaries at other schools often lack: a sense of duty, honor, and the ability to persevere. I have been blessed with remarkable roommates throughout my cadetship: Tony, Josh, Jake, Chunk, Frank, Eric and Mike, thanks. Room 121 can easily say that we could not have had a better set of rats: Michael, Nick, Maury, and Peter. Michael I wish you the best of luck, and if you screw up, rest assured that I can still break you. NOW: Jon and Ben, I'm glad we didn't make that short trip to the bathroom. Tony, at least you won't have to sleep on the stoop again. Josh, maybe the Army will let you sleep a little more. Jake, I make a great first impression. Michael, stay out of trouble and carry on my *lively* tradition.

CIG 1,2; 6th Cpl 3; GSGT 2; S-2 LT 1; Pre-Law Society 1,2,3,4; Newspaper 1,2,3; Strength and Fitness Club 2; Dean's List 1,2,3,4

2001- John Lentivech
2007- Jay Carter, Chris Earle

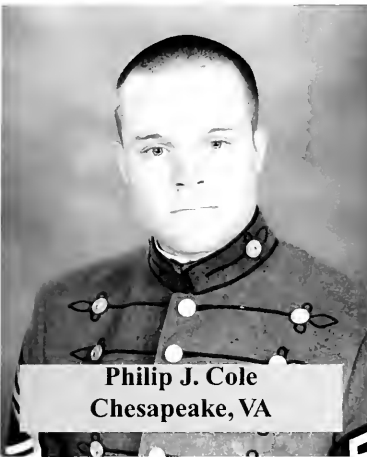


2001- Chris "Fat Head" Gaddy
2007- Brandon "BP" Price, Danny "Sputnik" Plitnik



2001-Pat Hurley
2007-Michael Rice, Nick Frank





Philip J. Cole
Chesapeake, VA

Army - History



Richard J. Connaroe, II
Roanoke, VA

Army- International Studies



Ryan D. Consaul
Richmond, VA

Air Force - "Connie"
International Studies and
Political Science

The following quotes or phrases apply to certain people I have encountered throughout my four years here. You know who you are.

"Let's Go Eat Some Beers"
"YEAH!!!!"
"Pigskin In the courtyard tonight?"
"You Can Have the Best Of Me"
"I'm In Deep"
"Happy Tree Friends"
"3 Wisemen"
"Damn Gina!"

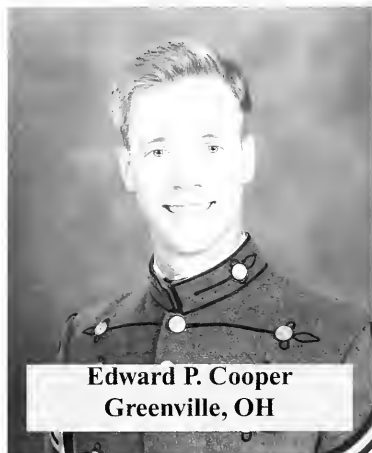
As I look back on four years at VMI, I cannot help but feel incredible inspiration along with some disillusionment. Few can understand the hardships and sacrifices we have tolerated during our college years here. It is my most sincere hope that VMI continues to cherish its most important values of honor and duty. From the numerous changes, which our class has witnessed over these four years, I am sadly pessimistic for our Institute's future. Our ways may seem simply too archaic to a changing world, yet I pray they will not evaporate into history. Future generations of cadets must fight with every breath to preserve VMI's rich heritage. They are our only salvation. My own experience has been more rewarding academically than I could have ever predicted. Success, however, has its sacrifices. I have nearly no wild stories to tell but in the end that does not matter. One of the most important things I will take with me are my closest friendships. To Alex - Through it all you've been by my side...I don't know what it would have been like without you. To Matt - Your success is inspiring...I am proud of your accomplishments. To Russell - I will miss our conversations...Thank you for expanding my horizons and reminding me that life is not always about studying. You are the brothers I always wanted and am blessed to have. To all my other best buds (the IS crew and Echo Co), you will never be forgotten. To my dyke, Sean, you gave me the foundation to become a great cadet. Finally, I am most grateful for the support of my family. Mom and Henry, your support and guidance has sustained my strength and made me the man I have become. As the curtain closes on my cadetship, I excited about the future and ready to for the next challenge.

Rat Challenge 2,1; Cpl 3; Sgt 2; S6 Lt.1

Pvt 4,3; Sgt 2; LT 1; Dean's List 4,3,2,1; Phi Eta Sigma 4,3,2,1; Delta Phi Alpha 2,1; Class Finance Chairman Ring Figure Committee 3,2; VP CPB 1; Pre Law Society 3

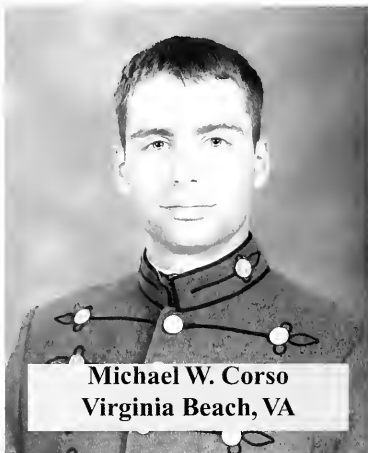
2001- Sean Collins
2007- Liam O'Brien





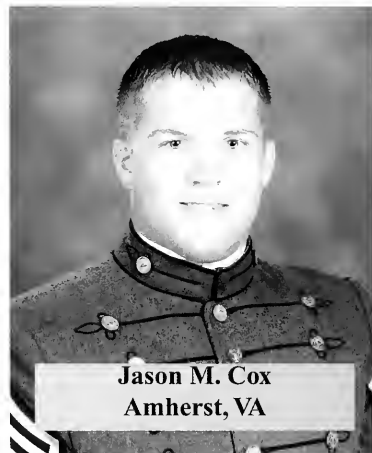
Edward P. Cooper
Greenville, OH

Navy- Electrical Engineering



Michael W. Corso
Virginia Beach, VA

Army - Psychology, Business/Econ



Jason M. Cox
Amherst, VA

Army - Business and Economics

VMI has been one of the defining experiences of my life, and it has also been one of the hardest endeavors I have ever undertaken as well. I feel that I have discovered more about myself, and life in general, because of the education that VMI has given to me. My family has always provided me with the love and support I needed through my good times and my bad times. Even from my humble beginnings as a Rat, they were always there for me, and I will always be very grateful for their love and support throughout my cadetship. My dykes were wonderful friends, mentors, and teachers to me, and provided me with the basic skills necessary to every successful VMI cadet. Thank you Jeff, Jon, Greg, and Jarrett for teaching me how to be a cadet. I will never forget the lessons you taught me. To MAJ Squire, thank you for helping me to discover my potential as an electrical engineer. I will always be grateful for the guidance and advice you have shared with me over the last four years. Second class year was another milestone because it brought to me the love and light of my life. Erin, you have been so incredibly wonderful, and I count myself as the luckiest guy in the world to have you. You have shown me how limitless the possibilities in life can be, and I cannot wait to see what the future brings for us. To my Rats Justin and Ryan, I hope that you both keep your goals and aspirations high. You both have the potential to be remarkable individuals in anything you set your minds to. I have tried to instill the same values in you both that the important people in my life have shared with me. Thank you all for making my VMI experience better than I could have ever hoped for.

5th CPL 3; 3rd PLT SGT 2; 2nd PLT LT 1; MIDN BN CO 1; AC Mentor 2; IEEE 4,3,2,1; Phi Eta Sigma 4,3,2,1; Tau Beta Pi 1

Well, it's February and I am supposed to write about what I learned here at VMI, and who to thank for my being here. First, I would like to say that the most important lesson I learned here at VMI is how not to lead. Every day of my cadetship I questioned not only why I came here, but why I have stayed. The answer can be summed up with one word... friendship. All together, VMI has fulfilled every alumni quotes.... "it is the worst place to be, but the best place to come from." I am proud to say that my senior year here at VMI has consisted of 100+ Penalty Tours, eight months of confinement, and 48.5 credit hours. Without the support of my friends, I would never have made it through the year. I owe my cadetship to my close friends, you know who you are, and if you don't then you weren't one of them. Dad, we all know that I wouldn't be here without your continuous support and dedication throughout my entire cadetship. I love you Dad. I would also like to thank my beloved grandmother, Yvonne Tramel, for her love and dedication. At VMI, I am proud to thank my true friends, 145, "Carroll Crew", and "shep". Without my friends at VMI, I wouldn't be here today. Two questions that I have: OGA.... What do you do??? GT...is it for real?? To the 145 Rats, you all are the best Rats ever, if you work as hard here at VMI as you did for all of your dykes, you will never fail!! "The world is yours" -Scarface

Private: 4,2,1 Conduct Pro: 2,1 Academic Pro: 3,2 Number 1 Club: 1 Rat Challenge: 2,1 Penalty Tour Club: 1 Confinement Commander: 1, 1HTFP, 4,3,2,1 Inspection Pltn: 3,2,1

The past four years here at VMI have been long, but enjoyable. I have made many new friends and gained stronger bonds with older ones. First and foremost I want to thank my parents and Shannon for all the love and support you have given me over the past four years. I can't explain how much you mean to me. All the trips you have made back and forth to VMI and wrestling matches. You have always been there for me. To Matt and Daniel I couldn't have had any two better roommates, we have done it all together. To David, keep working hard and the next three years will fly by, I promise. You can do anything you put your mind to, so chase your dreams. To the wrestling team, continue to work hard and great things will happen. "If you train hard, you'll not only be hard, you'll be hard to beat." Hershel Walker. Good luck to the class of 2004 and goodbye VMI

Wrestling 4,3,2,1; Cadet Investment Group 1; Color Sergeant 2; S6 Lt 1

2001 - Jeff Kuehne

2007 - Justin Bishop & Ryan Smith

2001 - Brandon Garrett, Kyle Kramer

2007 - Wesley Thomas, Josh Gauthier

2001 - Brian Longvarski

2007 - David Metzler





Shelly K. Cox
Prophetstown, IL

Marine Corps - History

I know the plans I have for you. Plans to prosper you and not to harm you. Plans for hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

life has a way of teaching you what it needs to, making you who you are, and showing you the way. Derick and Aaron you may never read this but you both have been the reason I've worked so hard. I could never live with myself knowing I had let brothers like you down. It's been a long road since childhood but you both will always be with me. After all, you are the only people who know that we have worked to leave behind. To the girls of 118,124, and 126 thanks for giving me a reason to stay at the "I." I would never give up the past four years, not even the bad times. It's strange how VMI brings such different people so close. To Anya and Brittani I hope I have taught you something. This place is what you make of it and you both have the ability to get everything you want. You have earned our place here and I respect you both for always working so hard.

Rank 3, 2, 1; Marathon club 2, 1; Deans List 4, 3, 2; Ac. Mentor 2



Daniel J. Cragg
St. Paul, MN

*"Evil Dan"
Very Special Student - History*

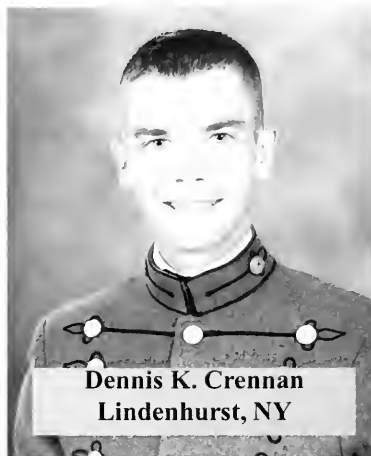
Dan's first day in Virginia was Matriculation Day, and it was on this day that he met his roommate for the next four years, Joel Andrus, and asked him, "What's straining?" Despite his obvious lack of mental preparation for the rigors that lay ahead of him, he not only made it through VMI, but actually succeeded. Dan is leaving behind an empire that stretched from the heights of Cadet publications to the lows of the Reg. Staff where he was always the voice of reason among those oh so tired out cadet captains.

Together with Charlie Munn, Dan built "Pub Frat," as it was affectionately known. It began his rat year, when he became, presumably, the only rat to ever have his own office, but really hit full swing when as Managing Editor of *The Cadet* his second class year, he put a TV/DVD player, refrigerator, pizza oven, and several couches hypacked from the basement of Lejeune Hall in *The Cadet* office. He did not let his new creature comforts distract him from his work, though. That year he took *The Cadet* to a level of excellence that far exceeded all expectations, though it was at a detriment to his GPA.

During his First Class year, Dan roomed with the moody, but lovable J. Brad Haywood for the third year, and the easy going Joel Andrus. He served as Editor-in-Chief of *The Bomb*, the Regimental S-7 Captain, and President of the Cadet Program Board, where he brought back that popular phenom, the Barracks Concert. As the second S-7 Captain, Dan added a lot of respect to the position while doing what the S-7 staff does best—excellent work. Dan, of course, was also the Editor of *The Bomb*, but nothing speaks to his success in this endeavor more than this book in front of you.

Perhaps it is strange that a non-conformist like Dan could succeed as much as he did at VMI, but VMI was a game to be won for Dan. He always took a "Colonel Hogan" approach with the administration. Perhaps watching *Hogan's Heroes* was all the mental preparation he needed.

The Bomb Editor-in-Chief 1, Ring Figure Editor 2, *The Cadet* Food and Beverage Chairman 1, Managing Editor 2, Layout Editor 3, News Writer 4, Reg. S-7 Captain 1, Reg. S-7 Sergeant 2, CPB President 1, NCMT 1st semester CIC 1, S-3 2, ACIC S-1 3, Deans List 1, 3, 4, The David B. Jordan '93 Journalism Award, National political celebrity 1.



Dennis K. Crennan
Lindenhurst, NY

*"D. Little Err. Big D"
Marine Corps - Business and Economics*

It's hard to explain the past four years in less than 325 words but I'll do my best. The past 4 years that I spent here at the "I" have been probably the most fulfilling experience of my life. I doubt that I will ever encounter anything like it ever again. I know I have complained a plethora of times about this place, but when it really comes down to it, I'm really going to miss this place. The thing I'm going to miss the most though is my brother rats. Especially Joe, Bryan, Justin, Gordie, Keith, and John. If it weren't for you guys, I don't think I would have had as much fun as I did here. The constant laughs, joking around, and harassment we all gave each other were some pretty great times. I've probably laughed more here than anywhere else from the antics we've pulled throughout the years. I'll never forget the Band trips we all went on together and how much fun they were. Also, if it weren't for my family I don't think this place would be bearable. I would like to thank my Mom, Dad, Kevin, Mark, and Pop for all the support they gave me and the constant words of encouragement to persevere. You have no idea what you meant to me the past 4 years. Finally, I want to thank Miguel and Laura for being two of the closest friends I have. You two were always there for me whenever I needed advice about something or when I needed to vent about something. I'm extremely thankful for having you two as my best friends. To my rat Elijah and the rest of the rats of Room 198, keep your heads up for the rest of your cadetship. Don't let this place get the best of you. Class of 2004, I'm really going to miss you. We've had some truly great times that I will never forget. Carpe Diem.

Pipes and Drums 4.3.2.1; Knights of Columbus 4.3.2.1; Pvt 4.2.1; Corporal 3; Bulldog Prep 2.1; Lifeguard 1; NCMT 3; Newman Club 4

*2001 - Ken "Window Breaker"
Armientrout, Brandon Farris
2007 - Oliver McElroy, Ryan Ernst*

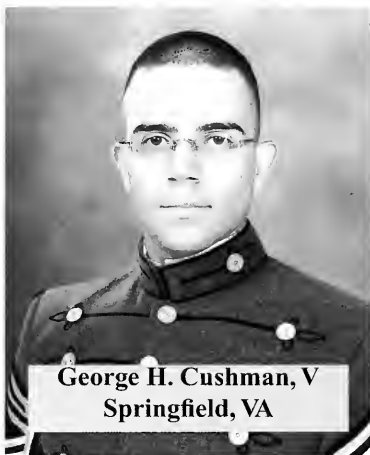
*2001-Nate Buxhoeveden, Bill Harley
2007- Elijah Huston*





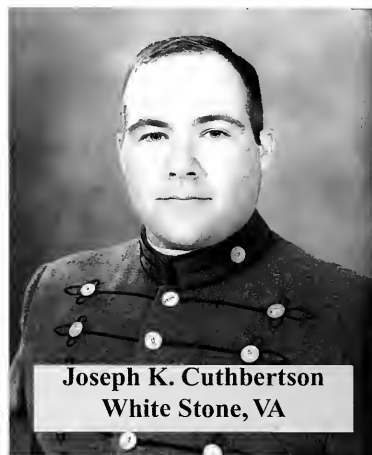
Andrew J. Cunningham
Manassas, VA

Army - Economics



George H. Cushman, V
Springfield, VA

*"Fagman, Cush, 2Hooah, Bob Villa, The Gleeator"
Army - Psychology*



Joseph K. Cuthbertson
White Stone, VA

*"Papa Joe"
Army - Psychology*

Thanks to my Mom and Dad for providing me all the opportunities I have been given. I hope I become someone you will be proud of. I love you guys. Thanks to all the guys who pretended to be my friends for a couple of years for not straight calling me out on being a total geek. I appreciate that.

Special thanks to the Crozet crew for making my cadetship better and allowing me to never participate in anything that had to do with VMI other than classes. Many a fun times in the club with the CWs. I would also like to send a shout out to the LN crew. Thanks for letting a brotho roll wit some brothas. Thanks to my dyke for being NORMAL and showing me the way of the worm. Despite few shortcomings the love you instilled in me for our good friend JD will never fade, rest assured. Thanks to Mincus for not getting in trouble and being a good lil rat, just take it a lil easier, and don't swing that damn thing around - your bound to hurt somebody. To the roommates, about all I can say is that B-Murder has the smallest one; let's not forget that when reunions come. To LTC Moreschi and Col. Bush thanks for looking out for this FCP private.

Mother Goose. That about sums it up. From day one, George Cushman has been the Bravo Company mother. Always there to look out for his BRs (and anyone else who will listen to him). George has always been the "go to guy". Especially if you can't put on your own pants or need some ear candle treatment. Part of the famous "Ambiguously Gay Duo". Ace has always been around to make us smile. We're not sure what George is, but it's some form of Mexican. He's mighty useful in a sweat shop, always building something new and improved in his top secret laboratory under his desk. Or packing cigarettes. Maybe he is Cuban?? How many nails can you drive in the walls, George? It must be some form of venting process, since you have to answer to our favorite S-1. Remember the time we shaved your head, and dropped you in a "certain room" till the Tac passed? Thirty minutes later, we remembered you...and boy did you look sexy all painted up with tampons in your ears. Let's take an inventory of George's belongings: 15 computers, his own Army Navy surplus store, 12 printers, a Skinner box, one live snake, mice, a super industrial craftsman tool kit (for a man who loves to fix things that aren't broken), and a complete furniture set made of coat hangers. It's surprising that VMI doesn't charge him room and board by the pound. George knows when you sleep. With his "nose forward, 45 degree power walk", he always slams his ring off the door and bellows from his Puerto-Rican belly with the news of the day. Even though you're a Glee Club fag, we still love you George. Just do us a favor and learn to sleep with clothes on.

Damn, I never thought these four years would ever end. Mom and Dad, I could not have done it without you two. I love you very much and appreciate the support and patience you have shown to me. Bob, you are the best brother a man could ask for. You went above and beyond your brotherly duty to keep me on track and out of trouble. You are not only my brother, but also my best friend. Everyone who knows about VMI knows that it pretty much sucks, so why did we keep coming back for more each year? The only thing I can think of is for the friends. Even though I despised almost every aspect of VMI, the friends I made here are what kept me going. We were able to turn the worst situations into a good laugh. Simple things kept us amused, whether it was going up town for a beer, sneaking liquor into the room, or sneaking our pet beagle, "Shep," in and out of barracks everyday for two weeks. Oh, we couldn't have a dog here? Oops. Rich, Mike and Bob D, thanks guys! You guys have had a great impact on my life here. Rich, I can't tell you how much I appreciated having a friend like you who was always there for me. Mike, you are one of the craziest SOB's I have ever met in my life! Thanks for the encouragement. You know you have great friends when they give up their break to go home with you to help cut and burn trees the entire break, cleaning up from a hurricane. We have shared many good times, both fun and dreary, that I will never forget. Deputy C. Smith, Hollar! To all of my buddies on the MCG, I am really going to miss all the good times at the barn. Form 24s...were you guys serious? Finally, to the 145 crew...Holla!

Cadet Waiter 3,2,1; Grill Bitch 1,2; Cadet Investment Group 2; Rat Challenge 3,1

Glee Club (President 1, Operations Officer 2) 4,3,2,1; Ranger Co: 4; Bree's Slave: 1. WOLF Logistics Officer: 3. NCMT: 2,1. Bravo Company Ranker: 3,2. Reg. Tool: 1. Cadet Newspaper (Layout Editor)2,1. Olympic Speedwalking Champion: 4,3,2,1

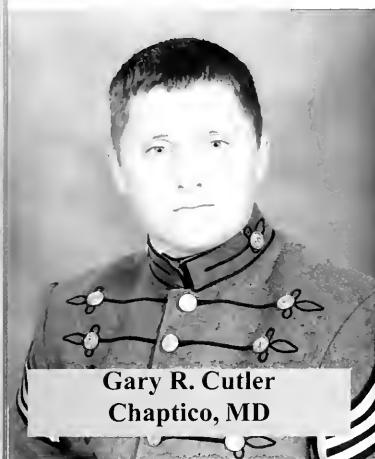
Private 4,3,2,1; Mounted Color Guard 3,2,1; Rugby 3; Binge Drinkers Club 4,3,2,1; Summer Scholar 4,3,2; Inspection Platoon 3,2,1; IHTFP 4,3,2,1

2001 - Stuart "J.D" Patterson
2007 - Joey "Mincus" Eanett

2001 - Andrew Holt
2007 - Scott "Spaztachio" Pistochini

2001 - Justin Prior
2007 - Brant Priest, Nathan Comer

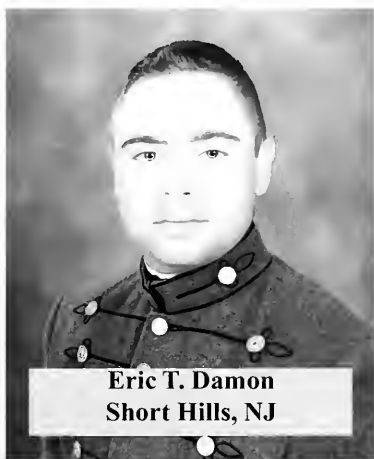




Gary R. Cutler
Chaptico, MD

"Bubba. The Cut"

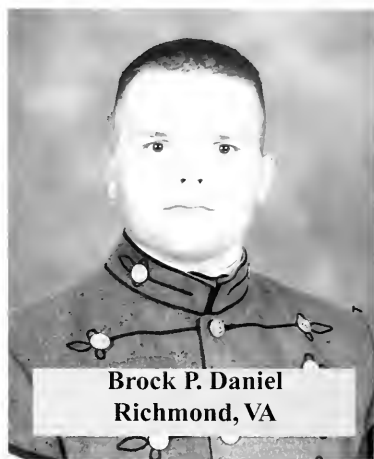
Marine Corps - Mechanical Engineering



Eric T. Damon
Short Hills, NJ

"Day-Mon. Smilie"

Marine Corps - Psychology



Brock P. Daniel
Richmond, VA

Marine Corps - Civil Engineering

Firstly, I would like to thank my family for supporting me these past four years. Your efforts, wisdom, understanding and caring have helped me overcome and persevere all this time. Lee and Laura, what can I say about you all. You have given me so much in my time here. Your insight and support have been essential to my success here at VMI and I thank you so very much. To all my brother rats, the class of 2004, we came here four years ago knowing very little about the path that lay ahead of us. Today we can say that we've persevered and have exceeded the standard that was set. Our class has certainly left its mark on the Institute. Jason, Wes, Mike, Kevin, Oz, Eric, Matt and Conner good luck in your futures and I wish you the best. To all my Ruggers, keep tapping that keg like it was your job and remember that Saturday's a rugby day! Peace, I'm outta here!!!

"Resolve to perform what you ought; Perform without fail what you resolve;"

Stonewall Jackson

When looking back at VMI, it sucked. When looking back at my friends I have made at VMI, I wouldn't trade it for anything in the world. There are too many of you guys to name, so I am not going to try. But thanks for the memories, the laughter and the fun we have had these past four years. You made this place bearable, and even...fun. Thanks Mom for putting up with all my complaining for these past four years. I'll never forget the time rat year when I thought I was getting a care package with cookies, but when I opened it up, it was underwear - I didn't know whether to laugh or cry. To all my London Study Abroad friends, thanks for opening my eyes, and making those four months the best time I've ever had in my life. To all my rats, especially Baff, keep your heads up, these four years go by very fast, and honestly...it isn't that bad. To my younger brother Mark, why the hell would you pick the Air Force Academy? I'm just kidding, good luck living the good life, I'm proud of you. To my older sister Beth, thanks for everything you've helped me with, and "at least you don't live in Boston, oh wait, you do!" And finally to my Dad, I hope I can be half the Marine to my troops and as good of a father to my children as you were in your life. Semper Fi

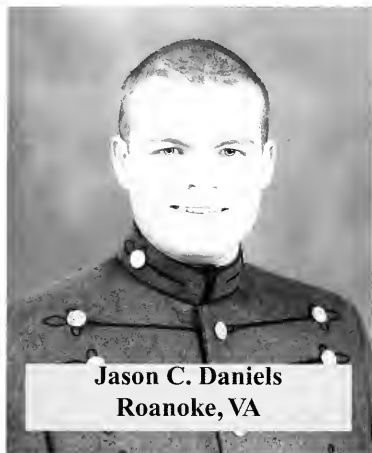
Golf XO 1; Golf IPLSGT 2; Rugby 1,2; Rat Challenge 3; Venturing Crew 1,2,3; Semper Fi 1,2; ASME Treasurer 1

Mirage Dancing Team 1; Semper Fi Society Land Navigation Instructor 1; VMI's Most Alcoholic cadet for a semester 2 (London, Spring); Boxing 1; Dean's List 4; Pissed off VA Militia Colonels 1; Carroll Hall Crew 1

2001 - John Koubaroulis
2007 - Jason Brown

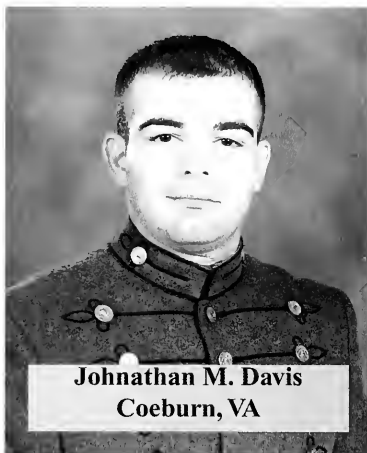
2007 - Corey "you've just been baffled" Bafford





Jason C. Daniels
Roanoke, VA

Army- Economics



Johnathan M. Davis
Coeburn, VA

Army - History



Natasha M. Davis
Poway, CA

Army - Mechanical Engineering

Well he came to us with a stormy past and was ready to start again. If you knew the Triangle of Terror you would surely have pitied this man but he accepted the assignment anyway. We came to find that we three were no match for his years of cranking wrenches and previous years of power lifting. Big D was the one who would stick with us through it all. Now two years in the hole, we approach our last days here. His insatiable appetite for Dr. Pepper and his desire for sleep amazed us all. This "warrior of the night" is determined to make something of himself, through countless hours of time spent in the Shipp or holed up within the barracks study room he is now destined for greatness. Without Jason we would have been forever lost, searching aimlessly for that fourth pea to fill our pod. Now we send you back to Botetourt, Bedford or where ever it is you came from. SUUUUUUUUP Dude! -JHR, BCT, and HLB

It's finally over....I wouldn't say it's been a good four years, but its over. I would like to thank all my boys at VMI; I probably couldn't have made it through here without you guys...too many to list, but you all know who you are...And finally I would like to thank my parents for all their support and help while at the "I". Stev-O, Vineyard, 2 Tone, and Iron Mike you guys hang in there it'll be over soon...161 161 - - TIGHT

What lies behind us and what lies before us are small matters compared to what lies within us." --Ralph Waldo Emerson

These four years have been such a unique experience. I have matured and learned so much from my actions, surroundings, and the people I care about. I wouldn't have been able to make it without all of you. For giving me so much love, support, and believing in me, thank you Mom, Dad, Jon, Grandma, and Bob, I love you all. Mom, you are one of my best friends, showing me the kind of person I want to be, always giving, you've touched so many lives, including my own...I don't know what I'd do without you. Dad, we're very alike and I feel great pride in saying that I am my father's daughter. Jon, you've been a pain in the butt brother, but you're always there when I need you. Ali, you're such a wonderful person, have gone so far, and accomplished so much...stop worrying, you're doing great and I know you'll keep it up, just remember: "I woke up this morning, the sunshine was shining, I put on a happy face..." Cathy and Shelley, thanks for always listening. You both have taught me and helped me so much. Girls in 124, you are all sweethearts and have all made this time special...thanks. Chris and Taylor, the time here at VMI is going to be "crucial," but I believe in you both, you've been great and I'm always here if you need me. 118 Rats, you each have a unique quality that makes you special...never forget that. I'd also like to say thank you to my co-dykes...you are all strong women. Last, but certainly not least, Vinny...you have given me strength in many ways I never knew possible. Even though it's been a roller coaster, I wouldn't trade it for the world. I love you and can't wait for our future together.

NCAA Sport (Rifle) 1,2,3,4; Dean's List 1

Marathon club

2001 - Paul E. Thompson

2007 - Nathan Murphy

2001 - Steve Partin

2007 - Cory Bond

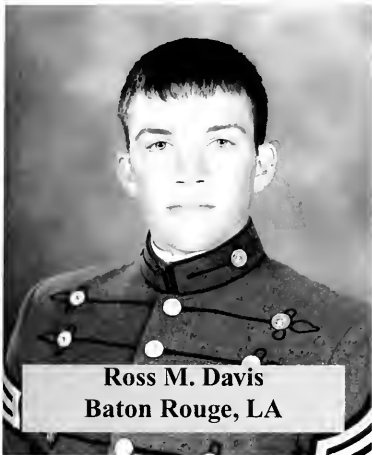
2001 - Tamina Mars

2007 - Chris Parker, Taylor Zahm



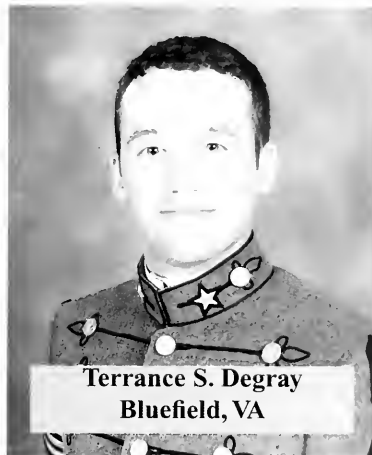
84 First Class





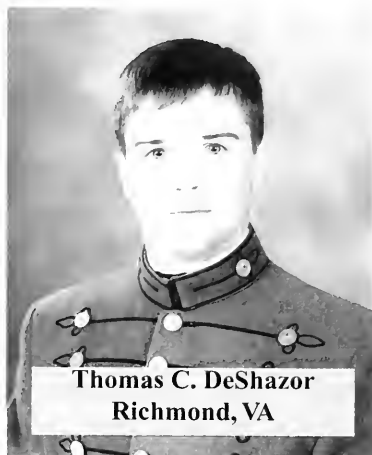
Ross M. Davis
Baton Rouge, LA

"Psycho Ross, Deuce, Brother, Ragin Cajun"
Air Force - Economics



Terrance S. Degray
Bluefield, VA

"Mad Dawg and Crazy T"
Army - Civil Engineering



Thomas C. DeShazor
Richmond, VA

Army - Civil Engineering

Well I was never one to say much so I will not go overboard with this. During my time at VMI I have for the most part kept to myself. I do believe I have made a lot of great friends here. Although I am not close to a lot of you and will probably never see you again. I will always remember you and if our paths do cross I will be there for you if you need me. I have experienced a lot of different aspects of VMI in my tenure here. This starts from the ratline when at first I sort ways to worm out of things, which I quickly discovered was not the way to go through life. I left my 3rd class and entered the world of what we refer to as real college, only to return to finish what I started. I applied and received rank my senior year, which confused the shit out of a lot of people. All I think I discovered though, is I am a shit bag private for life. Probably the most challenging part of VMI for me was being captain of the soccer team. When you try so hard and put all your effort into something only to sit by helplessly while it fails you learn a lot about yourself and the people around you. To all my fellow teammates those from the past and those who still have a future at VMI. I believe besides my roommates you all are my closest friends and part of the reason I stayed and conquered the institute. For that I am forever in your debt and will always be there to offer you the same. Over these past four years I have matured and learned a great deal and many of you know most of it was not from the books that were necessary to read to pass class.

"Before success comes in any man's life he is sure to meet with much temporary defeat and, perhaps, some failures. When defeat overtakes a man, the easiest and most logical thing to do is to quit. That is exactly what the majority of men do." - Napoleon Hill
First off, Congratulations to the members of the Class of 2004 who are finishing the journey we all started 4 years ago. Someone told me before I came here that four years would fly by and I didn't believe them the first, second or third year, but I believe them now. It has not been the best four years of my life, but there is no place that I would be prouder to come from. VMI has taught me a lot of things about life, and I will always remember the lessons I have learned from this great school. I would first like to thank my parents, whom I would not be graduating without their love and support. They have been more of an inspiration to me that they will ever know. Thanks Mom for pushing me to come here and believing in me, and thanks Dad, because you are my inspiration and I hope to be half the man you are. My roommates and best friends, Drew Barrett and Ben Rand, I would not have made it these past years four years with out you guys. Thanks for everything! I would also like to thank the civil engineering department for helping me figure out what I'm going to do with my life, especially Colonel Buckner "Buck Daddy" and Colonel Hoadley "Hoad Dawg". To the rats, good luck and stick with it. You will be writing your first class history sooner than you think. To VMI, thanks for a very unique four years that I will never forget.

The past four years have been quite an experience. For so long I knew I wanted to come to VMI, but I was never exactly sure why. It just seemed right. Now that it's all over, I am glad I never tried to answer that question. VMI has taught me a lot about myself and the people around me. I am certain I have received a truly unique and unmatched education. I want to thank God for the strength, perseverance, and desire to have gotten to this point. To my parents, words cannot do justice to how much you mean to me. Your support and encouragement over the last four years pulled me through even the toughest times. I wish the best to all of my friends and BRs in their future endeavors. '04 '04 '04!

NCAA soccer 4, Rank 1, Dean's List 2

Triathlon 3; Rugby 4.3.2; D Co. 1st SGT 3; Cpl 2;
Dean's List 4.3.2

2001 - Paul "Dirty" Dart
2007 - Ed "Vineyard" Mills

2001 - Matt Prokop
2007 - Eddie Fanning

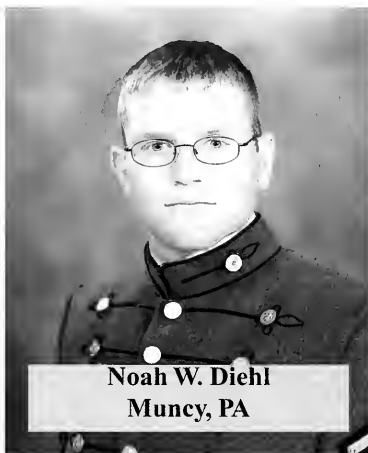
2001 - William C. Alley
2007 - Matthew M. Fountain,
Doug C. Hague





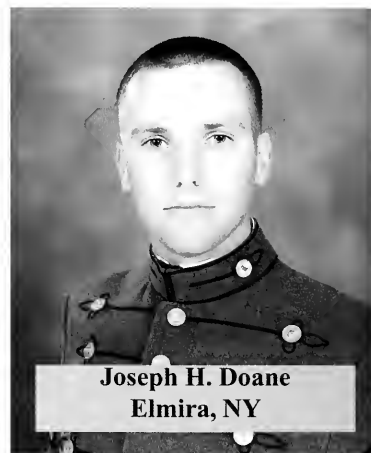
Joseph J. DiDomenico
West Comwall, CT

"Dido, DiMaggio, Domingo, "Joey D. Face"
Army - History



Noah W. Diehl
Muncy, PA

"No Deal , Champ , Ox , Iknowadeal"
Air Force - Civil Engineering



Joseph H. Doane
Elmira, NY

Army- Civil Engineering

First and foremost, I would have never made it through the grueling four years I've spent here without the love and support of the best family anyone could have. Mom and Dad... I am so lucky to have such supportive parents that put up with all my complaining and motivated me to work as hard as I can. I love you both and you model everything I want to be in life. Steph... you're the best sister I could have ever asked for. As my best friend, whenever I see you or talk to you on the phone I can always count on feeling better. I continuously look forward to spending time with you. Scott and Scrappy when I come home, love you guys. Of course I want to say something to my best friends, Bryan (My oldest chum and roommate), Dennis (fellow New Englander), Gordy (Political Pals), John (Spring Break UK), Justin (HUA RANGERS), and Keith (Col. Ball)... I know we can all agree that we've had some damn funny times! We endured many hardships and still manage to make each other laugh [NICE GAMS, OOOOOOOOH, marker fights, The Palms and Spanky's, VA Tech weekends, Pipe Band trips, etc...]. I not to mention we must have run hundreds of miles and spent hours studying together. I am blessed to have friends like you and am so proud of you all. It's funny how I've known you for such a short time, but I am positive that we will be friends for life. Matt S, Matt U, Chris, Elijah, and Bob you have all worked hard with what VMI has thrown at you and the time has flown. I am proud of all of you and wish you the best of luck; we'll be in touch for sure! Along with giving my professors the thanks and credit they deserve for working with me I would finally want to show gratitude for Grandma and Grandpa DiDomenico, and Malone who were always there for me, even when no one else was.

VMI Pipes and Drums 3,2,1; Ranger Company 3, 2; Ranger Challenge 1; Knights of Columbus 4,3,2,1; Rank 3,2,1; VA ARNG 3,2,1

Dear VMI,

Thank you for the last four years. I have learned that no matter how bad you think today was tomorrow is going to be worse. No sense in complaining, take the cane to the back of the knees and move forward. The time here flew by and now we are off to enjoy our young lives before things get too serious.

To my parents your encouragement and financial aid kept me keeping on. To my brothers, I experienced a college life that none of you probably every will desire to have a nightmare about. To my cousins that came before me, thanks for not telling me the truths about the Institute. The experience was worth the hardships endured. To the love of my life, my sanity and piece of heaven on earth, I love you. To my roommates don't ask don't tell. To the rats of room 141 don't follow directly in our footsteps, make your own individual wake in the VMI waters. To the Rugby fellows, the bang bus will go down in infamy. "nice cleats want to ruck" and these were by far my best VMI experiences. To all those I have not mentioned and that desire to be thanked, thank you for encouraging me and sharing these past years with me at Mother I. We are the reason the institute exists. Our friendships keep us coming back each year despite the bludgeoning. I couldn't imagine this place without the acquaintances.

Honor Court 1, 2; Rugby Football Club 1, 2, 3, 4; Rank 1, 2, 3; Big Red Club (Athletic Supporters) 1, 2, 3, 4;

The past four years have been something I will never forget. From the first day of STP to commencement a lot has happened, and I have met some of my best friends, who helped me get through the hard times and were also there for the good times. Christian, Rod, Ross, Ben, Harley, JJ, Chunk, and Chip; without you guys I don't know how I would have been able to deal with life here. I am sure that you will all be successful in your future endeavors and I look forward to the day that we meet again; until that day may God be with you, and all that you do.

Rat Challenge 3; Ranger Company 3; Rugby 2; Timber Framing 3; 2;1; Cpl. 3, Sgt. 2; Lt. 1

2001 - Dave Grilli

2007 - Matt Schreibfeder, Matt Upchurch, Chris Yoder



2001 - Greg Martin

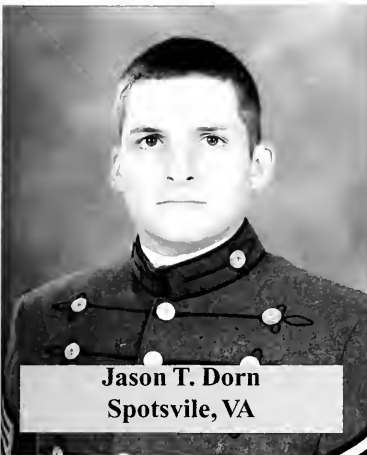
2007 - Nick Worek, Mike Watson



2001 - Kikuh Suharwiyono

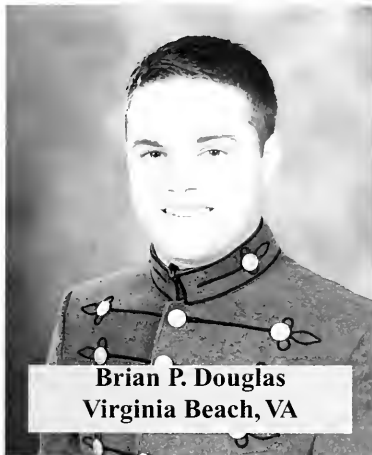
2007 - Matt Pacheco





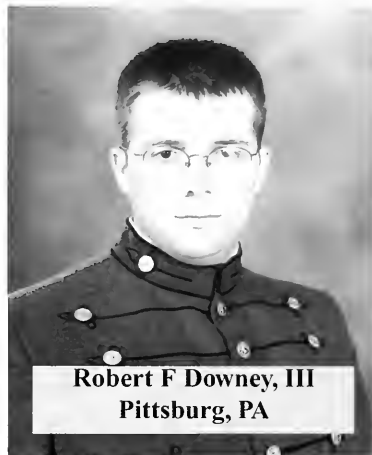
Jason T. Dorn
Spotsville, VA

Army - Economics



Brian P. Douglas
Virginia Beach, VA

Army- Computer Science



Robert F. Downey, III
Pittsburg, PA

Air Force - Mechanical Engineering

Well, it has been a long four years. I definitely could not have made it through this place without my family who always supported me even when my grades weren't so hot. I'm still skeptical about whether these were the best years of my life. But John, Wink, Mark, and Sean, ya'll have provided me with a lot of laughs and good times. I wish you the best in years to come. Mike, Tim and Braden - Good luck and take as many weekends as you can. I took the road less traveled, and I think that it will make all the difference.

I came to vmi because I wanted to separate myself from the rest of my friends. I found myself always doing what everyone else did in life, and I wanted to do something different that involved a challenge. That is exactly what VMI gave me, a hell of a challenge. Rat year is part of my life that I will never forget, and it will always stand as a constant reminder that I can complete or get through whatever life throws my way. Third class year will always be a constant reminder of how bad life can get, because it couldn't have gotten any worse. Then there is second class year, the year that I received my heavy paper weight of a class ring. The ring will always separate me from others because of its massive size and for what it represents. I have begun to finally realize how much this place has given me and what it will give me in the future. I can honestly say that I will look back on my four years at the institute with pride and satisfaction. I am proud that I got through it all, and I am satisfied that I did not spend four years of my life drinking and skipping class. What I have taken away from college is different from what any other college student can even imagine gaining from their experiences. I have already set myself apart from the rest of my peers during college, and now it is time to set myself apart from my peers in life. I would like to thank both of my parents because I would have never been able to take on this place alone. Thank you for all of your support and love. I love you both. I will never forget this place, the good and the bad.

First and foremost I have to thank my family especially my parents. They made many sacrifices for me to get to this point. Without you Mom and Dad I would have never gotten through the best or worst of times. Even when it got its worst and it didn't look like I would be here anymore you stuck by, not every parent would have done what you did, and are still doing it. I am forever in your debt. I have met several people while attending school, and gained more friends than I could have imagined. To all my rooms, from STP up till now, I know I was a pain sometimes but so were you, so we are even. We all had some good times, and some bad times. I truly thank all of you for making my experience at the 1 so tolerable. The rugby team you guys are just amazing, we had the craziest times in my life, I will never forget a single moment especially Peter Villa, Miss you Nick. To the Hotel crew, we are the PRIDE OF THE CORPS for a reason. To the ME class of '05, thanks for all the help in classes and we are the greatest engineers ever to walk the four walls of barracks. Go Steelers. To my Dyke Steve Dugan, Dude you were right, I messed up but I am back and I hope I keep up our strong dyke tradition. To Tom and Josh you guys messed me up in the head for life and I thank you for it. To the Co-dykes, yes I was the best rat in the room. To my rat Steve Turner, Dude you are a heck of a rat and friend. Remember the letter I sent, to keep you motivated through your long hard days here. To all my other rats throughout 07, you all made me proud to be associated with you. I know the past years I have done many a crazy things with many a crazy folk and if I did something to make you angry, I'm sorry. I just hope that I was able to make your day a little brighter in this dark evil place. If you take anything from me ever in this life, take

Volleyball 4; Deans list 4,3; Rank 3,2,1
Rat Challenge LT 1, VA History Club 3,2,1; Big Red Club 4,3,2,1

NCAA Soccer 1,2,3,4

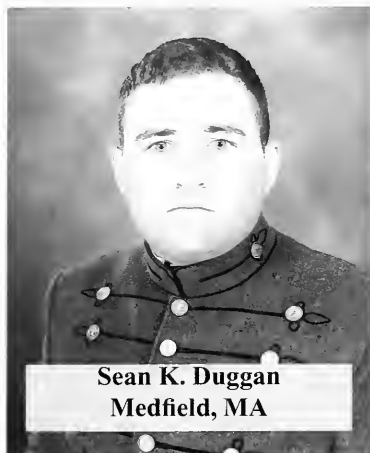
Rugby 2, 3, 4; Ring Figure Committee 3; Hotelier 1, 2, 3, 4; SPS 1; NBLF 1, 2, 3, 4

2001 - Steve Collins
2007 - Mike Golike

2001 - Joe Wunder
2007 - Rich Meredith

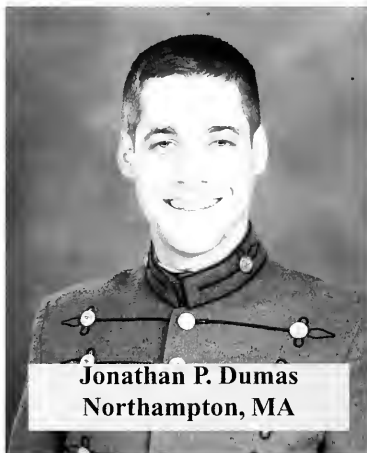
2001 - Steve Dugan
2007 - Steve Turner





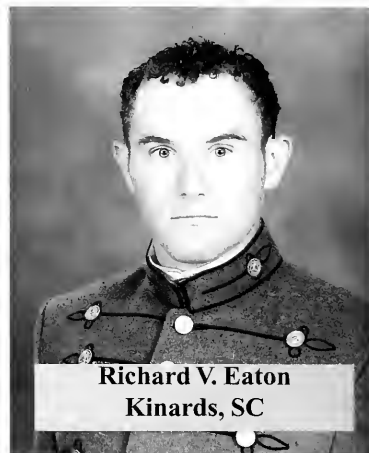
Sean K. Duggan
Medfield, MA

"Nickname"
Army- History



Jonathan P. Dumas
Northampton, MA

Air Force - Computer Science



Richard V. Eaton
Kinards, SC

Army - English

Upon completion of my stay at VMI I have come to realize many things. "I am happy because I am growing daily and I am honestly not knowing where the limit lies. To be certain, every day there can be a revelation or a new discovery. I treasure the memory of the past misfortunes. It has added more to my bank of fortitude."

First and foremost I would like to thank my roommates. Dave for always helping me out when I needed it. Chip for always reminding me to be myself, to not follow the crowd and do what is right, though I may not have adhered to his advice all the time. Last, but not least, Josh for showing me what a true leader is like, and I cannot forget what a great Tag-team we made against Chip.

I would like to thank my family, most importantly my mother, and friends for all the support and help they gave me these past four years.

To the Rats of room 144, I leave you with this piece of advice, "The greatness comes not when things go always good for you. But the greatness comes when you're really tested, when you take some knocks, some disappointments, when sadness comes. Because only if you've been in the deepest valley can you ever know how magnificent it is to be on the highest mountain."

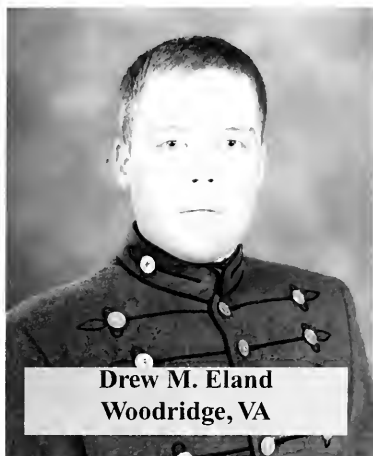
"To thine own self be true, and it must follow as the night the day thou canst be false to any man."

Thank you Mom, Dad, Anna, Kelly, and Sara for believing in me and accepting me as a prodigal son, brother, and boyfriend. I hope to make you all proud in the future. Good luck 134, may we meet again.

2001 - Brian McDonald
2007 - Devon Ream

2001 - Tom Sebrell
2007 - Johnny Limauro





Drew M. Eland
Woodridge, VA

*Marine Corps-
Mechanical Engineering*

Four years ago as I walked through Jackson arch I had no idea what I was getting myself into. As I look back, I do not regret my decision for a second. I've made the best friends I've ever known, and had a lot of fun along the way. It hasn't always been easy, but I know somewhere deep down inside I will miss the four walls of barracks and my second home in Nichols. Many a late night has been spent studying, but probably not as many as I should have. Not enough opportunities to go drinking. Keith. All the time spent at Jimmy V's. It's been great.

Rat Challenge 3; Ranger Company 3; Bulldog 2; Cadet Lifeguard 1; Deans List!



Timothy W. Erwin

*"Mer. Merv. Uncle Sam's Faithful Disciple"
Army*

My fun at VMI came from a few places. The first were the people. Such as my dyke, Charlie Bunting, fun fruit and "Like a Virgin" will never be forgotten. The second was getting out of here. The third was ring figure, by far the best time I ever had at the I (pictured below). The day-to-day rigours would drain the life out of me and often reduce me to a bitter person, but at the end of my cadetship I believe that I will walk away from here in a better position than I could have at any other institution. A semester abroad added some optimism to my cadetship and a lot of college experiences that I would have missed had I stayed here for all four years. Many days and even more nights were spent in NEB, often with "Col." Sanders. A few of my roommates did not make it this far, it is tragic that the fun that we had led to their departure. In conclusion... I came, I went, I am glad that I did both.

Lacrosse 4,3,2,1; Swimming: 4 Contentious Objector 4,3,2,1; A Proud PVT 4,3,2,1



Bryan D Faison
Midlothian, VA

*"Faze. Fashion Show, Turtle, Shamus"
NAVY- Business and Economics*

Let's see if I can do this in 325 words or less. Here goes. There is no one word to describe the VMI experience and the dynamic facets of cadet life. The biggest thing I will take away from this institution, aside from my degree, is the friendship of so many fine individuals that I have shared my hellish experience with, in particular my roommates Graham, Kenny, Richard, and Ben. May many years of torturing be in your future. As this place wastes away, rest assured that our friendship will not. I cannot forget my parents who supported me in both the engineering and economics curriculums. Thanks to anyone and everyone who passed any words of encouragement onto me during my cadetship. My beautiful girlfriend who was willing to listen to my dry VMI stories on the phone first class year deserves a big thanks. But, alright, enough sap. Since matriculation a lot has happened, some of the biggest events in history like 9/11 and the capture of Saddam Hussein. It all seems like yesterday, too. I sure hope the rest of life doesn't happen so fast. My tenure at VMI has taught me a little bit about ambition, diligence, and a lot about honor. Coupled with these I learned what a leader should not be courtesy of the Commandant's staff. I will miss many aspects of VMI when I am gone. The same aspects that drove me to come back after my academic furlough. Life is just now beginning and I look forward a brighter future.

Blood Mobile Class Representative- 3,4; Rank-3 N A-2; CIC ACIC Blood Mobile-1

*2001 - Dave Khalek
2007 - Johnny Limauro*

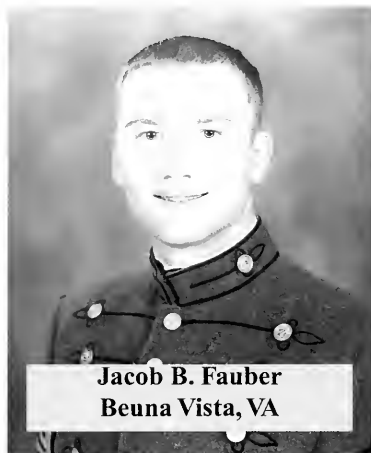


*2001 - Charlie Bunting
2007 - Room 112*



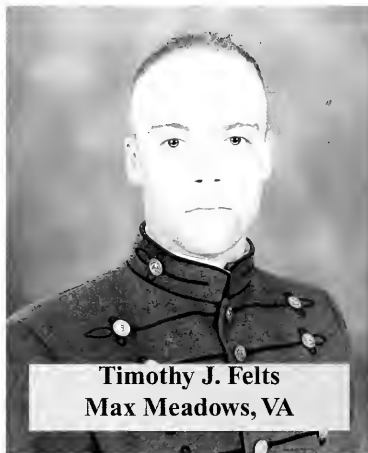
*2001 - Brian Wilson
2007 - Dan Swift, John Beducian*





Jacob B. Fauber
Beuna Vista, VA

Army-Mechanical Engineering



Timothy J. Felts
Max Meadows, VA

"Grandpa, T-Rock"
Army - Mechanical Engineering



Tamara J. Ferguson
Ontario, Canada

"Fergie, Wheezie"
Air Force - English

These past four years have been some of the most difficult and cherished. I have encountered challenges I never thought I could surpass while finding friends whom will always be in my life. Thank you VML, no regrets. Thank you Dad, I love you and could never have made it through this life with out you, much less VML. You are my hero. Sibs I love you all and will always be your older Brother. I will always support you and be there for you. Grandmother, Grandfather, and Papa I love and cherish you all. Family, thanks for supporting me in different ways. John, Chad and Chris without you guys life here would have been impossible. I could not ask for closer more sincere friends. We are forever brothers. Kent, Co-Dyke love. We have been together since the beginning and now until the end. Denise, I love you. I cannot wait to begin the life we have planned. You have been my rock, best friend and soul mate. Jen you are the best you kept me sane. Go RR! Chuck I miss those Saturdays and hot dogs, you have been my mentor and older brother. The Scout will get finished, promise. Thank you Rusty and Rebecca for your support and love. I would not have started this journey without you both. ME guys and girl, you are all awesome. Thank you all for being there for me when I experimented with Asphalt Surfing. Major Hyre, Wendy, and Isaac; you have become my second family. Thank you for everything. Sir, I have a bike for sale in good condition. Conner I will always be here for you no matter what. Love you. To Tom stay strong hold tight to what is real and important. The rest thanks for the laughs. To all, finish what you have begun.

ASME VP 1; Taekwondo Club 2; Dean's List 2,3,4;
National Dean's List 3,4; Title IX 4; Virgin Private
1,2,3,4

It's amazing how time can go by so quickly and so slowly at the same time. Regardless, I'm glad that this challenge is over and there are new ones to come. They say that this is a great place to be from so I guess I won't have that broad perspective until I am gone. I'm looking forward to successfully justifying this to myself. As the end approaches, it's becoming clearer. There are some faces I'm going to love not having to look at anymore, but through the disgustingly high concentration of jerks I've formed some friendships that I will always hold close to my heart. These select few have made this place tolerable and have kept me from toppling into complete insanity. I don't know how I would have done it without my friends and my family especially. All of my family has been great, particularly during my last year. This year has been difficult for many reasons but I always got the support I needed. Because of this I didn't want to mention any names as to offend anyone I didn't mention directly, but I have to say a special thank you to Uncle Neville and Auntie Joy. You two have had my back from time. Thank you. I also don't know how I'd make it to the end without those that met me half way. To my rats, both of you are going to do great things. Elizabeth, don't stress the little things, and reevaluate what's little and what's not. Bubble head, when I say you have to graduate I mean from here. Best of luck to everyone in the future.

Track 1 (Captain) 2, 3, 4; Promaji 1 (President), 2
(President VP), 3 (Treasurer) 4; English Society
2,3,4; SAAC 1, Dean's List 1

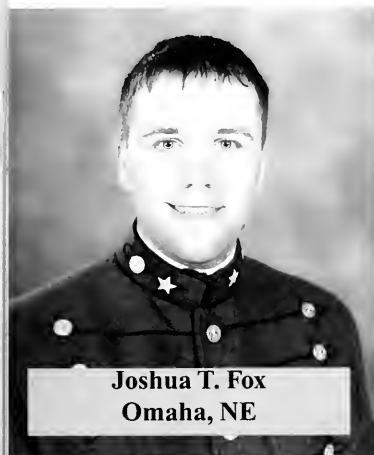
2001 - Jay Douglas
2007 - Tom Pepka

2001 - Alexis Abrams
2007 - Keashawn Artis, Elizabeth Davis



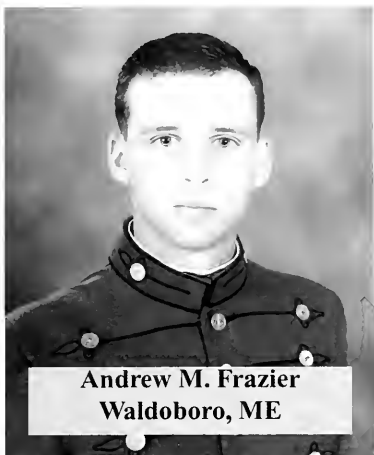
90 First Class





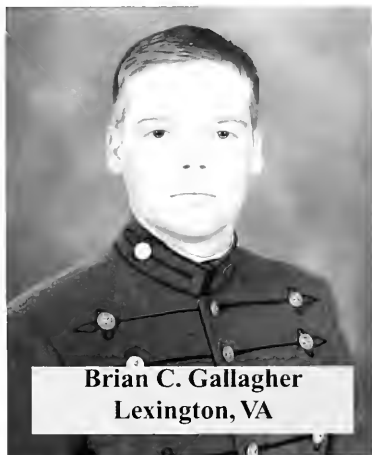
Joshua T. Fox
Omaha, NE

Army - Biology



Andrew M. Frazier
Waldoboro, ME

"Stetson"
Navy - Mechanical Engineering



Brian C. Gallagher
Lexington, VA

Marine Corps-History

This may sound a bit redundant, but here it is. I'm finally out of here. My four years of animosity and angst are over. It's been an interesting time at the "I". We have all seen many come and go. I came to VMI expecting a new experience, something away from normal society. It was a new place to provide new challenges. I had always hoped things would stay the same, but not even the "Hill" could hide from the winds of change. I've been told by an unnamed LTC on the Commandant's Staff that VMI is a Spartan society. Towards the last couple years here I honestly think the Spartans would laugh. This place has changed so much in the last four years. For better or for worse? Who knows, we'll have to stick it out to see where things go from here. Even though this line may be overused, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times..." describes this place. Am I glad I chose to matriculate? Sure. Would I do it again? Nope. I owe a lot of thanks to my friends and family. People close to you are what help you make it through VMI. All I can say to those following is good luck. To my roommates: Adam, try Beano, it could help. Chris, it's been a good 3 years, I'm glad I'm going to be far away from your artillery fire. With your math physics skills, who knows where they'll end up. The rats: Kyle, take it easy on the Heavy Metal, it'll fry your brain. Paul, wait, Paul who? I don't know what happened. Stuart, Natty rules. Thanks for opening my eyes. I'm sorry Scott. Anyway, keep in touch; I'd like to hear how things go. This ends our broadcast day.

Four years of cold morning inspections, marching down to the mess hall, specials, confinement, PTs, disapproved permits, staying up until BRC finishing projects, loud radiators, some good fun with friends, and a lot of memories. Well, I guess the best place to begin is by thanking those who deserve it. I'd like to thank my parents first for their support. Next all my friends. It's been a long four years and it would have been quite hard without all of you. Alana, you're wonderful and have helped me more than I can say. Beth, who knows where I would be now without you—okay, so I have a small idea and it's very nice weather there—but without you I wouldn't be writing this now. My roommates over the years: Ed, Dave, JB, Glenn, and Lakin, we've had some good laughs and some hard times. Here's to the good times, and I wish you the best of luck when we go our separate ways. 176 rats, do your best, that's all you can do. Alex and Jack, good luck in all your endeavors. You've been excellent rats. A few memories... Breakout, enough said. Spring break 3rd class year, Paris, Sabre team w/ Mark and Doug, Bronze medal, hell's yeah guys. Ring Figure, Beth, I'll never forget it. Randy Mac. Fencing competitions. Room 371 and 271, Ed and Dave, there's no forgetting that. 176, Ed, Glenn, and Lakin, wow, talk about some fun times.

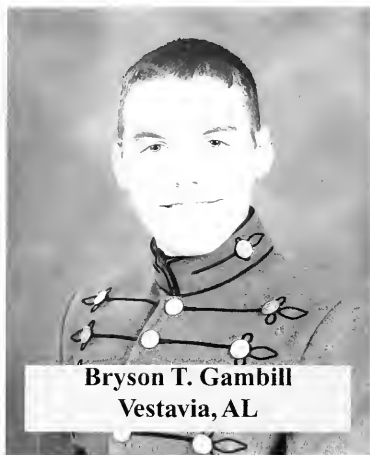
Dean's list 4,3,2,1; Fencing 4,3,2,1; Band 4,3,2,1; Ac stars 1; A-1 3; Private 4,3,2,1

Alpha Private 4,3,2,1; Fencing club 4,3,2,1; Fencing ACIC 2; Fencing CIC 1

2001 - Steven Harris
2007 - Kyle McAfee, Paul Sheldon

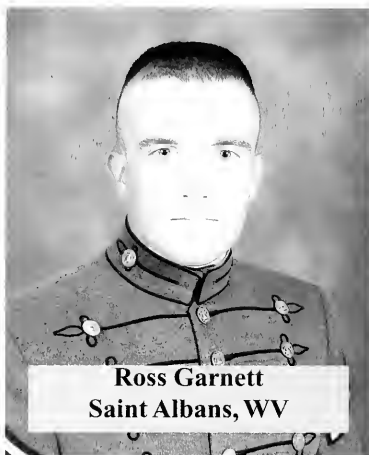
2001 - Jarrett Somers
2007 - Dana Daly, Alex Rawlings





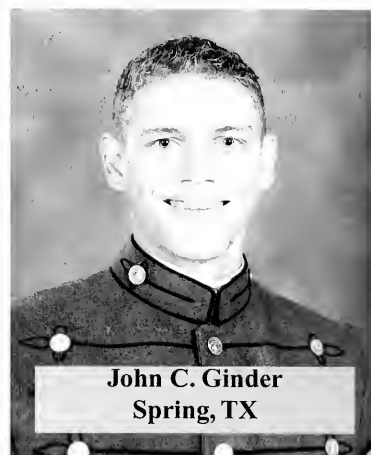
Bryson T. Gambill
Vestavia, AL

Army - International Studies



Ross Garnett
Saint Albans, WV

Marine Corps - History



John C. Ginder
Spring, TX

Army - Economics

Well, here we are – it's taken us four years (and some a little longer) to get to this point, but hopefully it will be worth it. As the saying goes, you have to give credit where credit is due, so here goes: I first want to thank God for getting me through the past four years – as well as my entire life – and giving me strength when I had none left, and for blessing me with all of the other people on this list: I want to thank my parents for never giving up on me (I'm so stubborn, how they did it I will never know.) and always providing me with support and guidance; I would like to thank my dyke and uncle dykes for the help of adjusting to life at the "I", and for beating me mercilessly and on many occasions. I want to thank my roommates for some wild and crazy times for the past four years, and for getting me in to trouble and keeping me out of it at the same time – if you guys ever need anything, just give me a call. I want to thank the members of Golf Co. for staying out of trouble our first class year – it has made being O.G.A. a whole lot easier. Finally, I want to thank all of my other friends, both from VMI and from home, for the good times and the constant support.

Here I am at the end of a very long road. This road has been fraught with hardship, agony, defeat, and now victory is close at hand yet still just out of reach. Spending the past 4 years at VMI has only been possible because of the circle of friends that I keep: The Class of 2004. We've marched the endless parades, stood fast for inspections, formations, and meetings. Through it all, many have dropped by the wayside as the rest continue to press "up the hill of science." My thanks go out to my family and friends, for all the care packages and encouragement. To my Brother Rats, the time spent in your company has been some of the best times of my life: the Ratline, 3rd class (screw) year, 2nd class year & Ring figure, and now our final, and last, year together. We've heeded the call and led the Corps of Cadets back on track and set to take on whatever the future decides to throw at the "Mother I."

To my RDC, you guys made it all possible for our accomplishments this year. Without your constant sacrifice for the Class of 2007, I would never have been able to do my job. The privilege to work with some of the finest the Institute has had to offer will stay with me for the rest of my life. I gave back to the Corps and VMI what she had given me...the best damn experience of my life. To my Rats, past and present alike, take what my BRs and I taught and run with it...and never look back, continually reset the standard and make this place what it ought to be...the best military college in the world.

Room One-One-Three, formerly known as *The 263 Band* released their debut album, "Evil Temptress You Have No Power Over Me!" in August of 2003. Although they made no sales to anyone other than their rats, who were forced to buy several copies, they considered their 1st Class year to be an overall success. The addition of a new lead singer, John Ginder, at the beginning of the year completed the struggling duet of Justin Roberts and Anthony Peters. Since that day the three men from three different worlds have grown into what critics are calling the "freshest thing since George Strait himself." This is where the cowboys ride away. Roberts (Guitar) – Thanks to Grandmother and Bampa. Bampa, I know you saw me graduate from heaven. Thanks to my roommates for always doing everything for me and not calling me lazy. Thanks to the Marine Corps for finally promoting me.

Ginder (Vocals) – Thanks to my folks, the Adams', and the Bryan's for supporting me. Thanks to my roommates for putting up with my primping and GQ attitude. "Who says there's nothing more to life than being really, really, ridiculously good-looking?" Peters (Drums) – Thanks to the fam damly, Chaplain Park, my Christian brothers of 333, and especially my dyke, Anthony Bravo. Thanks to my roommates for allowing me to be a food box and desk supply parasite. I swear I wasn't a permit worm.

Sports Medicine 2,3,4; VMI ERT 3,4; Timmins-Gentry Music Society 1,2,3,4; Rescue Squad 4; O.G.A. 4; S-5 Support Staff 3,4; Rank 2; First Class Private

Tae Kwan Do Club – 4; Semper Fidelis Society – 4,3,2,1; Bulldog Platoon – 3,2,1; RDC – 2,1; RDC President – 1; Delta 1st Cpl, Msgt, and XO; Marine Corps – since birth

4th CPL, 1st Battalion Color SGT, 3rd Platoon LT; Cadet Battery, Boxing; Dean's List

2001 - Will Boulware

2001 - Drew Modisett
2007 - Brian Nelson and Zachary
Huson

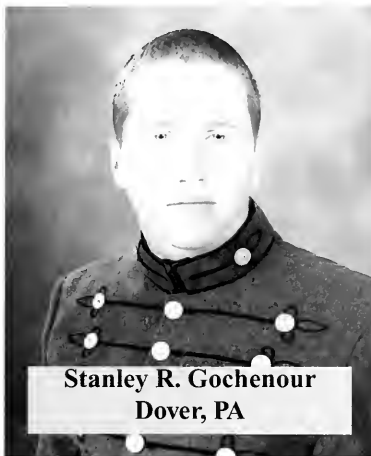
2001 - Justin Walskey
2004 - Thitipan Durasavin





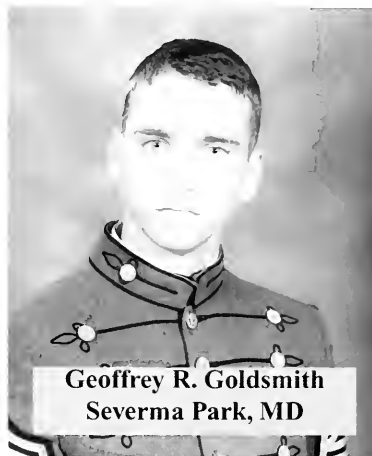
Hrvoje S. Glasnovic
Strmec, Croatia

Army- Economics



Stanley R. Gochenour
Dover, PA

"G. Goch, G Money, HRTLM, Scuba-Stan"
Army - International Studies



Geoffrey R. Goldsmith
Severna Park, MD

Air Force- Economics

Well, I guess that's it. It's been good and I would not change a thing. I want to thank God, my family, my relatives, my friends, and the Croatian Army for being a huge help in this awesome experience. Of course, it was not always quite awesome, but hey, such is life. To all my boys that I might not ever see again, I love you and wish you best of luck. God bless y'all.

30G 1 HRVATI

Rat - 0540, sleeping on the rack with just my comforter and a book. 145-156-141, election day oath, balling up Woody, aim chats, Consaul through his rack. Dr. Pepper and ice cream after breakout. Garthwaite, Spain
3rd - Hal, Pat, Vance, Pre-CDQC at VMI, locked out VanCleave ear ache at White's, K Braine worst day of my life, I.S. group study. New Years in Colorado, W&L #4, Bush amnesty. Kirby salesman, Grant. Team Fun trip, PT mania.
2nd - Beatley, Banks, BangME, Russo, swimming, AST semi formal, Matson's enjoyment party, TF New Years at PSU, bang sledding, Beatley's party eyes. Spring Break at Beatley's, hypothermiaFTX. Taylor, Easter at Baltimore/Front Royal, Post exam Beatley. Pre-CDQC at TAMU. CDQC, Key West, the compound. Parker I need a cheeseburger, NAL Cheerleading, Hocutt, Hornsby, Lightford, Blackstone, Sylvain.
1st - 1 week summer, late nights on 5, TF incident in PSU and Philly, Christmas at PSU, writing papers at Wal-Mart, chocolate from rats, Parker and Bang I'm scared at the Mirage, FightCut
Thank you Mom and Dad!

Combat Diver, Officer of the Guard Association
Co-Defense Counsel

Looking back on four years here at the mother "IT", I'm finding it harder and harder to believe that it's now our time to write our first class histories. Where has the time gone? Writing Geoff's history is somewhat amusing since I've had the privilege of spending the majority of my time here in hell with him. There are so many stories I wouldn't know where to start. Rat year gave him an interesting roommate, though he denies fully that he told them to shave the eyebrows of a certain BR. Third class year was the year he joined the A-1 club after the Gestapo raided our room, confiscated my cell phone, took his bottle of Jim and unfortunately forced us to say goodbye to good friend. Unfortunately this year he was unable to ever take a weekend with us because he was either A) making the 5 hour journey to see psycho and B) on confinement for being a bad cadet. Continuing into 2nd class year, Austin and myself had the pleasure of living with Geoff as he put together our Ring Figure. Basically it consisted of many late nights, not doing work for either his classes or Ring Figure but arguing on the phone with a certain somebody. After putting together an awesome Ring Figure, he was chosen to take over as Historian. Now it's his first class year. He walked the 82 miles of hell to New Market (supposedly bitching the entire way according to the rest of the group). He's got a pilot slot for the USAF and I don't know anybody that deserves it more than he. He works hard, granted it's pulling all nighters b/c he refuses to do work prior to 11pm, and gets results. He's also made for interesting convos for his family. As Austin can attest to, Geoff tries to get into the most difficult relationships possible. They always make for good laughs for us, heartache for him, and entirely too expensive cell phone bills. I hope you enjoyed our trips to Radford, the bathroom experience there, and the girl with a K-pot and LBE. Geoff, you're a true friend, and I love giving you shit all

Rank 3.1; Rat Challenge Cadre 3.2.1; Deans List 3; Rock Climbing Club 4.3.2; Ring Figure Chairman 3.2; GC 2.1

Ac stars- 3.2.1; Cadre- 3.2.1; Marathon club- 2; Cocke Hall ball- 4.3.2.1; Rock Climbing club- 4.3; Rugby Team Super Fan - 2.1

2001 - Adam Woytowich
2007 - Sean "Heed" Hingley, Josh
"Squirrel Man" van Cleef

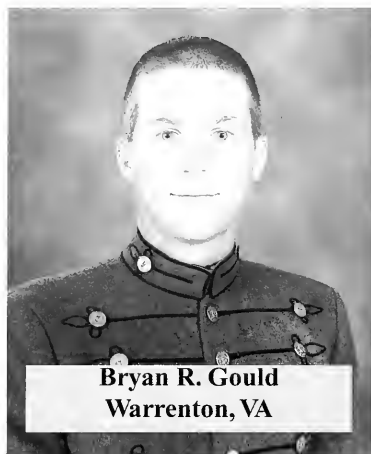


2001 - Ben Griffith, Luke Pernotto, Terry Li, Mike
2007 - Kimball Yamasaki, Shawn Jones, David
Lamb, Peter Kowalczyk



2001 - Nate Charles
2007 - Dan Brock, Robbie Brooke

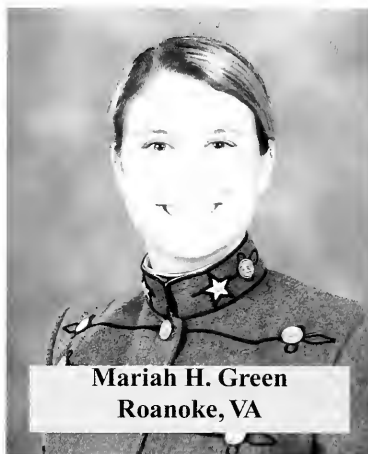




Bryan R. Gould
Warrenton, VA

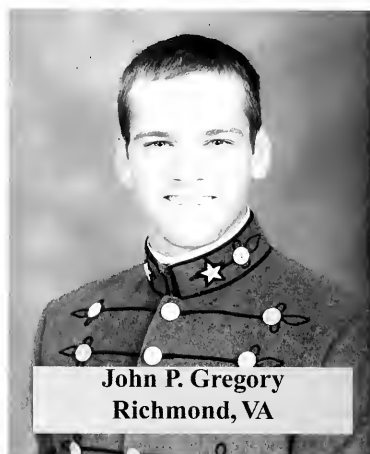
"Gouldylocks, Brianna"

Army - Civil Engineering, Math



Mariah H. Green
Roanoke, VA

Army- Biology



John P. Gregory
Richmond, VA

Army- Electrical Engineering

The day is finally coming: Graduation! It has taken four very long, yet short, years, but our day is finally coming. Now is time to thank those who deserve it. First off, and without question, are my parents. You have never failed to encourage, motivate, and help me in every endeavor that I go through. I only hope that I have the ability to turn out half as well as you both did. I will always love you guys. Next my lovely sister, Samantha, and brother, David, who somehow managed to make it through those Saturday football games; I thank you both for your support. David, I hope that your years at VT prove to be the best time of your life (short of those incredibly close PS2 matches). Sam, I wish you and Tyler the best. JOANNA! I love you! I am so grateful of everything you have done for me, for forgiving every stupid thing I've done, and for remaining with me through my tenure at VMI. You are the love of my life. Chipper, Jimmy, and George: Good luck Co-Dykes! Nhoj Greb, B2, and Mad Dawg. The summer at Tech was quite a fun one. Next, how can I fail to mention those BR's who are the closest of close (in no particular order): Joe, Dennis, Justin, John, Gordie, and Keith. Joe, you have been my roommate every semester (cept England), and I want you to know you are my best friend and that I am sorry for getting you sent to the RDC that one time. Dennis, "Stand Down!" If you end up a Va. State Trooper leave me alone! Jason Bie-rems, without you as the Band CO we would all fall to itty-bitty pieces. Keep up the work you muscley, animalistic man. John, no matter how many off the wall, idiotic things you say, you are always my friend. Go-o-o-o-rdie, if I had a dime for every time you made me laugh I would have a buck twenty. Keith, the so-called "Untouchable." I have one thing to say to you: "8-year-olds Dude. 8-year-olds." DA PIPES, DA PIPES IS

VMI Pipes 4, 3, 2, 1; Deans List: 4, 3, 2, 1; Tau Beta Pi 1; VMI Rank 3, 2; Rat Challenge Cadre 3, 2; Rock Climbing Club 3

Well the end of our VMI cadetship is finally here. Thank God! I never thought it would get here soon enough, but looking back on the years, the time has flown by. VMI has been a truly unique experience that I would never want to experience again. Yet, I would not trade my education or experience for anything. I'll never forget all the crazy nights at Travelers, The Palms, darts at Spanky's, and dancing the night away at The Mirage. It's those nights outside of VMI that kept me going.

I guess I owe the biggest thanks to my family and closest friends here. I would have never survived this place without the support from all these people. To my roommates, the "girliest" girls of the Corp, who I have had the pleasure of living with since 3rd class year, I'm not sure you girls know how much I love each of you and how lucky I feel to have met and lived with such great people. Erica, I will never forget our crazy drinking summers at VMI, Cape May, your ability to chug moonshine, our shopping sprees, road trips, DC. Libbi, I'll always remember that night in New York Pizza in Roanoke, drinking mudslides and watching Sex and the City. Our Palms trip in the middle of the day, our attempt to make our curly hair as straight as possible. Sarah, my smoking buddy, I'll always remember your great dancing skills, our A's, the "highlighter" experience third class year with Libbi, your moans in your sleep, your perfect size boobs, your smile. To the girls in H18, I will never forget any of you and have enjoyed our many nights out. To my rats, Paul and Carrie, always keep your heads up throughout your cadetship; have faith because it will be worth it in the end! To Mom, David, Luke, and Jared thanks for all your support, I couldn't ask for a better family.

I would like to thank my family for their guidance, support, encouragement, and for giving me the opportunity to study at VMI and abroad. I would also like to thank my roommates: Zach, for encouraging me to think big without inhibition. I can't wait to see how far your ambition takes you. Hal, for provoking me to question ideas and beliefs that had previously gone unexamined. You are well prepared with optimism and a sharp intellect for any challenge that catches your interest. Vance, your humor made VMI bearable at the most miserable of times and your adventurous spirit inspired many unforgettable memories abroad. I admire your compassion for the less fortunate and believe in your ability and desire to change the world. Charles, Rob, Josh, John, and Corey, thanks for all of the help and entertainment this year. Good luck with your endeavors in and outside of VMI. I would also like to thank all of my teachers, coaches, and friends who influenced the development of my thinking and beliefs over the past four years. I would not be the same person today if it weren't for all of you mentioned here.

NCAA Cross Country and Track(4th and 3rd) Corporal (3rd); Volleyball Club CIC(2nd); Deans List (1,2,3,4); Ac Stars (1,2,3,4); Phi Eta Sigma (1,2,3,4); Iota Sigma (2nd) Ring Figure Committee (3rd and 2nd)

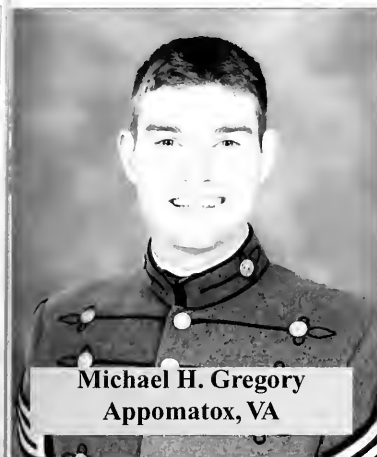
Institute Honors Program 1,2,3; Lacrosse 1,2,3,4; Dean's; List 1,2,3,4; Cadet Investment Group 1; Phi Kappa Phi 1,2; Omicron Delta Epsilon 1,2; Inspection Platoon 1,2,3,4

2001 - Eric Ham
2007 - Bob Allen

2001 - Erin Claunch
2007 - Paul Hiner; Carrie McAtee

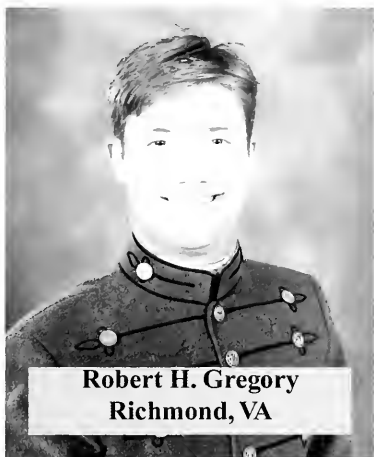
2001 - KP Scott
2007 - Charles Barnes and Rob Payne





Michael H. Gregory
Appomattox, VA

"Whitey, Pasty, Batman"
Army- Phscology



Robert H. Gregory
Richmond, VA

Army- English



Johnathan E. Hadra
Mechanicsville, PA

Army- Economics

It was just yesterday, or so it seems. I was dropped off at VMI for the next four years of my life. Now, those four years are over and I'm about to embark on the next journey of my life. People always told me that four years are nothing and they will fly by before you know it. Though I had suspicions, I found out on my own they were right. I found out that as each year went by I had more and more fun. Rat year was tough but I wouldn't have wanted it any other way. Mark and Greg were great roommates and taught me a lot. Third class year can be summarized with one word and that is: *Counter-Strike*, the bane of my existence. Second class year was challenging academically, however, receiving the ring paid off for it. Of course, how could I forget Rury, Mark, A.J., Vinny and Daniel teaching me what it's like to get "balled-up." First Class year is in full swing and I have had a blast. My roommates, Josh, Mick a.k.a. "Little Tony," and Mike a.k.a. "Clutch," never cease to amaze me and have been great friends all along. Chuck, Charlie, Childers, Noonan, Dan, Joel, Bender, Jones and Chris made VMI a better place by the humor they brought to the table all those Halo Domino's filled, endless nights in Maury-Brooke. Girlfriends came and went but my brother rats were always there. From a leadership point of view, you get your mixture of good and bad officers and through experiencing both, you learn whom to be like and whom not to be like. To God, I owe everything and more because had it not been for Him, I would not be where I am today. I owe my family a great deal of gratitude for supporting me and standing on the "sideline" cheering me on. To John and Brad, my rats, hang in there, and remember what we taught you so you can pass it on to your rats.

9th Corporal 3, 2nd PLT Sergeant 2, XO 1, Cadre 1, Ranger Company 4, Rock Climbing Club 3 CIC 2, Cadet Library Assistant 3 2, Bomb Business Manager 1, Thanking Parents 4 3 2 1; Pub. Frat. 1

Harrison had a difficult time becoming the third consecutive Gregory to come through VMI, because he has always felt that his true calling was in some fraternity in a large SEC university. Instead he settled for Bravo Company, and soon became his cadre's favorite rat. This title was well deserved after being caught on his numerous trips to a certain W&L fraternity. Harrison soon realized he was getting more than he bargained for and that the ratline was no pledge period. Harrison characterized himself in his upper class years with poor hygienic standards, and severe disregard to the military aspect of VMI. He also managed to set records for hours slept during evening CQ, but still enjoyed academic days in almost all of his semesters, and wore stars in his final semester. While he never played a collegiate varsity sport, he set a standard for Keydet support that few in all the apathy of the Corps could match as both a fan and Big Red co-CIC. Despite his unkempt demeanor as a cadet, do not assume that he did not care about this school. Though L-Train may say otherwise, his roommates will contend that during his four years he was a valuable asset to the Institute and will continue to be in the future. Living with you, Harrison has been a unique experience, and one we will never forget. We have appreciated every good time at Oxford, every drink, every invitation into W&L, almost every hour you have instigated, every word of encouragement for your roommate's football dream, every road trip, every kick in the ass when we needed it—just to name a few of the reasons that made living these four years with you such enjoyable ones. You have preached that what you value in friendship is loyalty, and Harrison that is what we value in you. Through the hard times and great times you have been there when we have pushed together and

Honestly I didn't enjoy the school or the majority of the people that made up the school. The only reason why I was able to remain sane was because of Wook, Bobo, and the rest of the Base Co. To Base Co. I will miss ya'll a ton. We had some great memories. Keep on getting after it! To the rats, only three more years of this place. Stay smart. I'm out.

Virgin Private, Sigma Tau Delta president, Big Red 4,3,2,1, Bodybuilding Club 4,3,2,1; Dean's List, Ac Stars, Pre-Law Society 2,1, VPO 1, Frat rat 4 life

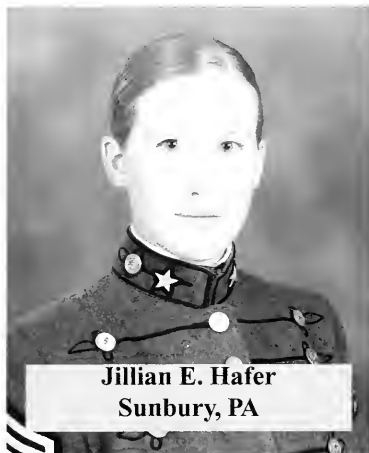
Baseball 4,3,2,1

2001 - Scott Miles
2007 - Jonathon Fredricks, Brad Wilson

2001 - Wilson Mustian
2007 - Jeb Pinkerton

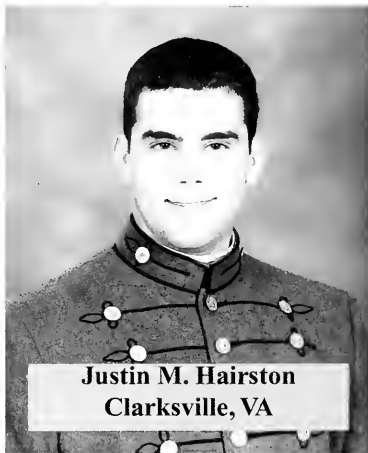
2001 - Chris Catanzaro
2007 - Abigail Ward, Brent Upham





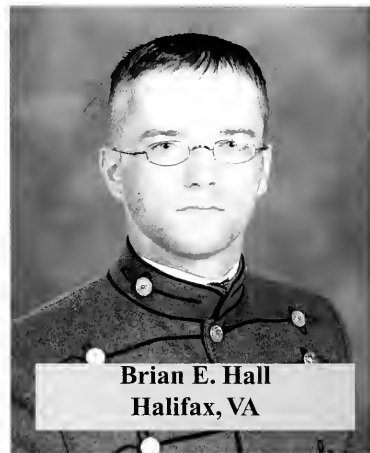
Jillian E. Hafer
Sunbury, PA

Marine Corps - Biology



Justin M. Hairston
Clarksville, VA

"Big Dupe"
Air Force - Economics



Brian E. Hall
Halifax, VA

"Vern"
Army- History

There were times that I thought these four years would NEVER come to a close. Now, I open my eyes in a whole new way, and I see the apprehension of leaving all my past challenges behind for a new set of struggles. Growing up and moving on from barracks is a very unsure prospect, but not one that any cadet in their right mind does not look forward to.

And even without "freedom", I found myself here. More importantly though, I found myself surrounded by people that added to my growth or supported me, lifting me up and urging me on when I forgot how to do so myself. Admittedly, I am not an easy person to be close to, and true friends are a virtue. To all of you at VMI that have done me the honor of showing me true friendship, I thank you. It took ya'll a long time to break down the walls surrounding me even as I stubbornly struggled to re-patch the "damage".

Mom and Dad, I hope that the person who I have grown into is a testament to the support that was given to me. I had room to grow when I needed it, and in the next moment my family would travel a ten hour round trip if I so much as hinted that I needed their love (even if they could only come for supper).

To my rats: keep up the work and carry on the traditions that I hope I was able to instill in you both. Carry on with your heads held high and always stand up for what you think is right. Find an outlet, and use VMI for all it is worth and all it can give you. If you continue on with the same values that you have shown me this year, I am sure that you will be successful. The key is that you must put your whole heart, mind and soul into it.

Equestrian Club 1,2,3; CIC Mounted Color Guard 3; Concert Band 1,4; Glee Club 1; ACS 2,3,4; Company Clerk 3; Operations Sergeant 2; BD XO 1

Mom, Dad, Giz, Ashley, and the rest of my family, thank you for supporting and helping me through the last few years, you all have seen me through this place and just know that with out ya'll I would definitely be a garbage man by now. Heidi, you've stuck with me since rat year and have been the brightest part of all of my days. Without you all I wouldn't have been able to succeed when I could have failed and persevere when it would have been easy to quit. Seeing the look of pride on all of your faces when I leave on weekends means more to me than any diploma could.

Four years can fly by so quickly, as these last four have. I'd be lying if I said that my entire VMI experience has been a pleasant one, but rather an arduous up-hill journey that ends with graduation. I would also be lying if I said that I chose to stay here because of the rigorosity of the schedule, mundane activities like CTT and "forced fun". The only thing that kept me from leaving this prison nestled in the heart of the Shenandoah Valley are my friends here. Without a doubt I have made bonds with guys that will last a lifetime. To Wu, Jimmy, Jaden, Joe (My Ambassador of Quwan), Cleave, Sanders (!@#S the Steelers), Mike (damn, busted in the parking lot), Dave (Respect LeFist), Strait, Tito, Leroy (don't forget Dip Time...POP POP POP), Rizzutti, Konak, Brandon, Gordy (can't forget the rat roommate), Bryan, Lessen (good to be out of hand), and all the other friends I've made since I've been here, but won't forget, thanks for keeping me sane during the long stretches of confinement, boring weekends, and just generally brightening the generally dark days at the "T". To Kevin, Gene, and the other rats of J42, keep your noses to the grindstone and don't let the administration keep you down. STAY OUT OF TROUBLE (i.e. NO A1s).

Rat Challenge 1; Football 4; A1 Club

I just came to VMI to be different and to be able to say when it is all said and done, there was nothing to it. Most people think that it makes no sense that I came to VMI just to graduate and take over the family farm. Well I say to them, it makes a lot of sense. There will be no questions in the back of my mind debating whether I could have done it or not. Also about 30 years down the road, I can look back and laugh because it just sounds funny. What was I thinking, but hey, I did it and there are no regrets. I also joined the Marine Reserves for the same reason, just so I could say I have been there and done that. I don't want to be one of those old men sitting on a porch somewhere complaining about how I wish I could have done this and that. I will be the old man laid back with a smile on his face saying, I have been there and done that. I would like to thank my mother, the rest of my family, and most of all my brother who inspired me to make the most of my life. I also thank my friends, I would have nothing without my friends and family. We only live once, we might as well make the most of it.

2001 - Kim Herbert
2007 - Caroline Lanier, Kyle Wills

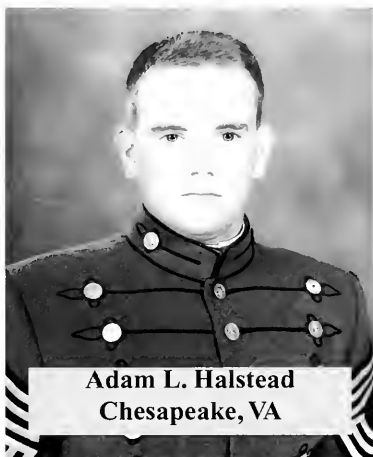
2001 - Mark Bauserman
2007 - Kevin Janezic





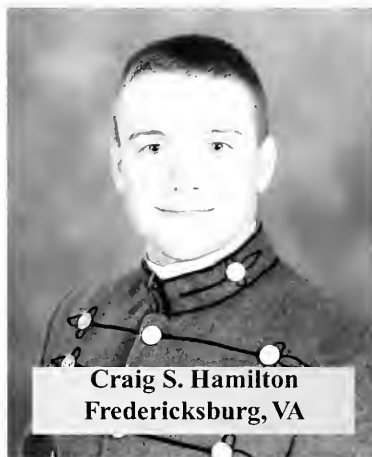
Daniel F. Hall
Hackensack, NJ

Air Force- Psychology



Adam L. Halstead
Chesapeake, VA

*"CHUNK"
Army - Economics*



Craig S. Hamilton
Fredericksburg, VA

*"Ham"
Marine Corps - History*

I just wanted to give thanks to all that have helped me survive the 1. **FAMILY:** Thanks for giving me endless support through the past 4 years. I wouldn't have gotten through it all without you. **COL. BRODIE:** Thanks for making the ratline survivable, and for all the great times that we've had on all the band trips and even on a Jolly basis. I can always count on you for a laugh! **THE BAND:** Thanks for making my time at the 1 worthwhile. Thanks for all the great trips to Disney World, NYC, Mardi Gras, Richmond, The Citadel, & Navy, and thanks for keeping an eye out for my short mace! **ROOMMATES:** To Jeff, Chris & Chipper: Thanks for getting me through the ratline and memories to last a lifetime. To Scott: Thanks for making my thirdclass year not as depressing as it should've been. To Josh & Jesse: you guys have always been great to me. Remember: trips to NYC; Hall-buster & Domino's; Simpsons & 24; my horrible sense of humor; Mitch-the huge stuffed dog; our sterile room; making fun of my accent; band trips; and our retarded rats. **BREE:** Thank you for everything that you've given me and everything that you've taught me this past year. You've certainly made me leave VMI on a high note. I love you and will be forever grateful. Remember: great times in Gainesville; U.F.S.U. game; Hippodrome & Maude's; my new Trailblazer; St. Augustine's & art shop; smoothie king & gator shop; NYC; my aunt's house and her hippie medicine; taking care of each other when sick; Goshen; Lenfest Center; Trips to Roanoke; bad poetry strikes! Good luck with everything in life. You certainly deserve it!

Drum Major 1; VMI Commanders 1,2,3,4; SPS 1,2,3,4; TGMS 1; Volleyball 4; Newman Club 3,4; Knights of Columbus 3,4;

Well, I used to want to go to VT, but I changed my mind and came here. Not a day has gone by as a Cadet that I wondered why I never even applied to the large, fun-filled University with **REAL** women. But at the same time not a day goes by that I don't think of the life-long friends I have made, the things I have accomplished that I would not have elsewhere, and those who chose the latter would never accomplish. Ben, Christian, Adam, Clarence, Dave, Eric, Jason, Gary, I could not have asked for better roommates throughout it all. Y'all kept me sane, and most importantly, in good spirits and I wish y'all the best in everything you do. Will, Jay, what were we thinking man??? I guess I'll see y'all on the dock and in the woods!!! Mom, Dad, Megan, I LOVE YOU!!! And Thank you for your support every step of the long way. Rats, well... learn from your dykes, work hard, play hard, but please stay out of jail!!! 5-Speed... welcome to the South buddy, you made things much easier for me this year and I hope I was a positive influence! Despite what I say negative about VMI, it has taught me to appreciate what is important in life. **Family, Friends, and Hard Work.** No hard feelings towards the Institute. I chose to go here. Good Luck to the gentlemen of 2004 and God Bless... I'M OUTTA HERE!!!

VMI Golf 1,2,3,4; D. Co. 8th cpl; Reg Csgt; 1st Bat S-5 Lt; Tailgater 1,2,3,4

Well it has been an interesting four years to say the least. We have all suffered quite a bit at this place. All of it starting with a difficult ratline and then moving into ridiculous and contradictory policies in which we always seemed to get the short end of the stick. That is all gone now and the only thing we will really have left from this place are the friends we made. Though we did not enjoy it at the time, all the trials we went through did serve one good purpose and that was to forge incredible bonds of friendship with our BRs. That is something we will all have forever. Best of luck to Echo Company and everyone else in 2004.

Semper Fi!

Ta Kwon Do 4; Rat challenge corporal 3; Platoon Sergeant 2; Boxing 2; Bulldog 3rd 2; OGA Echo representative 1; Dean's List 1, 2, 3

2001 - Rob Magruder
2007 - Pat Magno, Pete Relyea, Al Bowker

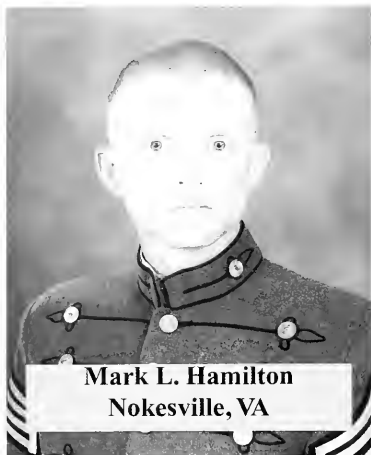


2001 - Tony Gelormine
2007 - Manuel "5-speed" Caballero



2001 - Brady Daniels
2007 - Ray Mattia and Matt Davis





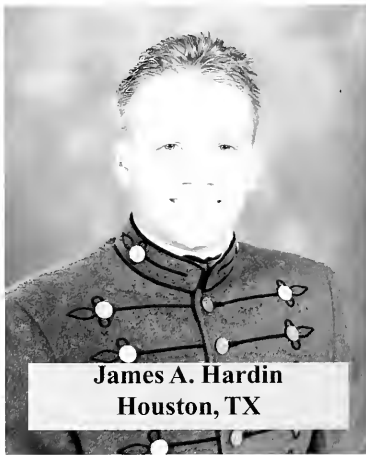
Mark L. Hamilton
Nokesville, VA

"MarkLHam, Ham-Bone, Bone"
Air Force - Physiology

To sum up my experiences in one paragraph seems merely impossible. But here goes nothing. I came to VMI 4 years ago to have a "unique" experience, one that would set me apart from my peers. After 4 years I have not been let down. The system though recently flawed still challenges me to this day, and for that I am thankful. As my cadetship draws to a close I cannot help but reminisce about my experiences. For all the words associated with VMI to me the most important is often left out: friendship. The bonds formed in my 4 years here were strengthened through hardships, sweat, and tears and this unique place has given me friends for a lifetime. Greg, I truly hope you find someone new to clean up your mess, you are a brother to me and I thank you for our friendship. C-murder, Joe, J-brown, Andy, Jonny-D, Will, Rod. My boys on the track team, your friendships are priceless. JD and Will maybe some day we will end up on 35th street again. Lastly, mom and dad your undying love and support have not going unnoticed. I love you both very much. In the words of Henry David Thoreau "Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined"

Cross Country 4,3,2; Indoor Track 4,3,2,1; Outdoor Track 4,3,2,1; 1st plt Sgt 2; Alpha Company Commander 1; Deans List 2; English Society 2; College Republicans 2; Academic Mentor 2,1; Unauthorized car 2

2001 - John H.J. Niederhaus
2007 - Graham Forbes, Edwin Lugo



James A. Hardin
Houston, TX

"Tex. Rockface, Ivan"
Army- International Studies

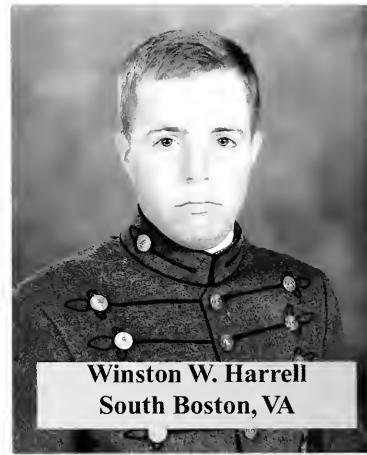
Muhammad Ali said, "Ain't nothing wrong with going down, its staying down that's wrong." VMI has been a more immense challenge than I ever could have conceived. Those of us that wear the ring carry it as a token of pride that we did not back down when faced with adversity. I look around the faces of my brother rats and I have such respect for these men and women who would not back down, who stood fast through the storm. We've lost good friends and felt how cruel the Institute can be, but we've discovered something deep within ourselves, the iron will that refuses to surrender.

I would most like to thank my roommates Matt, Frank, and Charles, and my cohort of debauchery in Spain, John Ginder. I cannot imagine what life here would have been like without y'all. I'll never forget the countless insults, the instigation chart, el toro, two men in one bed, Matt's 21st b-day, the fighting, and the camaraderie we shared as roommates. Y'all have been my best friends through it all. We spent everything from the miserable nights on the third stoop to Ring Figure wrestling together, and I'll hold those memories close. John, you've been a good friend and about my only good influence, although I should probably apologize for some of the stuff I talked you into. You've always helped me fill in all those nights I can't remember Spain was one hell of a time wasn't it?

My dykes: Chris and Jay, I never would have survived rat year without y'all to put everything in perspective. I wish my rats: Michael and Will all of the joys, pains, and pride that VMI has given me. Never give in, adversity builds character, and you can only find true strength through trial by fire.

Soccer 1,2,3,4; Dean's List 1,2,3,4

2001 - Chris Simpson
2007 - Michael Canning, Will Moeller



Winston W. Harrell
South Boston, VA

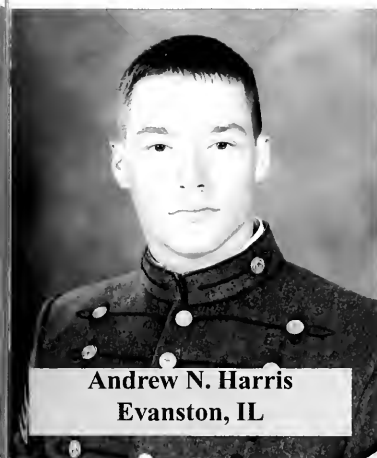
Army - History

Looking back on the last four years, there were plenty of good times as well as bad. There was the ratline, bad roommates, PTs, and confinement, but there were many fun times as well. For one and a half years, I was a barracks entrepreneur and provided a valuable service to my fellow cadets. I was a supplier of fine products to all four classes of the Institute. There were the times second class year when we cooked hamburgers in the room on a George Foreman Grill. There were also many trips away from VMI, including Wintergreen, Williamsburg, Charlotte, Richmond and Roanoke. The last of those Roanoke trips earned me two months of confinement and 40 penalty tours. Remember to never leave Roanoke less than an hour before TAPS, you probably won't make it back. But, like everything else it was a learning experience. I would like to thank my parents for always believing in me. Jimmy Epps was the coolest dyke ever, thanks for everything Jimmy. My uncle dykes and all of the guys on "frat row" really helped me through the ratline and the rest of my cadetship. I would also like to thank my roommates, my BRs and my rats for helping me make it through. Nick, you're a great rat, just keep studying hard and you will succeed. Remember to keep up all of your dykeline traditions. I would like to thank Noelle for always being supportive. It has been one heck of a journey, but I wouldn't trade it for anything in the world. I am closing with a quote by Moliere: "The greater the obstacle, the more glory in overcoming it." VMI may have been an obstacle, but with the help of God, my family, and my friends I was able to make it through.

First rat to strain 4; delta company private 4,3,2,1; Christmas light king 3,2,1; VA historical society 1; Barracks Entrepreneur 3,2; Block Runner 4,3,2,1

2001 - Jimmy Epps
2007 - Nick Engle





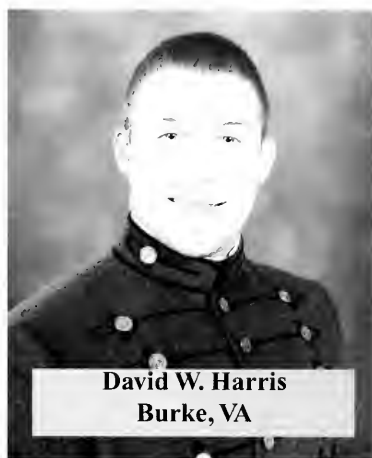
Andrew N. Harris
Evanston, IL

"The Hamburger"
Army - History



Benjamin L. Harris
Camp Lejeune

"Elvis, Wildabeast"
Army - Psychology



David W. Harris
Burke, VA

Army - International Studies

As my time at VMI draws to a close I am lucky enough to have the opportunity to train Rats for the first time in my final year at the Institute. This gives me an interesting perspective on what it means to be a First Classmen at VMI along with what the life of a Rat is like. Seeing young men and women who came to VMI in August without a clue in the world, reminds me of the way I arrived at VMI: clueless. Over the course of four years with the help of understanding roommates, friends and mentors I have been able to discern the qualities that make a person of character. Character has nothing to do with what VMI says the regulations are or what a higher officer tells you is right or wrong. Rather, your character comes from in the way you interact with your fellow man. A person who is approachable, friendly, who looks forward to solve problems is looked up to generally respected among his peers. Along with personal integrity and honor that VMI provides every graduate, VMI has also taught me how to be a person of character and for this I suppose I owe the Institute a debt of gratitude. With all significant accomplishments in life, one cannot take all credit. My journey through VMI has been aided by all the great roommates and friends I have been lucky enough to live with and get to know. Eric, Greg, Mark, Clarence, Joe and Matt... Knowing you gentlemen has made the journey worth the price and then some. My family is also very deserving of thanks. At VMI I was lucky enough to learn about personal courage, character, and integrity. My father is a wonderful example of all of this, without his love and unquestioning support, I would not be here. In the words of William Churchill, "The future is unknowable, but the past should give us hope."

Pvt. 3,4; Cpl. 3 Sgt. 2; Lt. 1 XO 1; Dean's List 2, 1

First off I would just like to thank my parents, for their support (monetary) and other ways to get me through these four years. I would also like to thank my roommates for some unforgettable nights, Jimmy, John, and Slava: I will never forget those sleepless weeks that were spent on cases. I would also like to thank Instant Messenger for all those days that I spent talking to other people instead of doing my work.

It is weird to say but my time here is going to finally be over with, and no one can take it away. The memories that will be looked upon these last four years will hopefully be good ones for us all. Things such as Rat Olympics, even though some won't remember who won, we remember who got disqualified for MUTINY. Ring Figure, for all that can remember, and those that have to look at pictures to place different events of the night.

Big Red Club (Athletic Supporter) 1,2,3,4; O. G. A. 1; Guideon 1

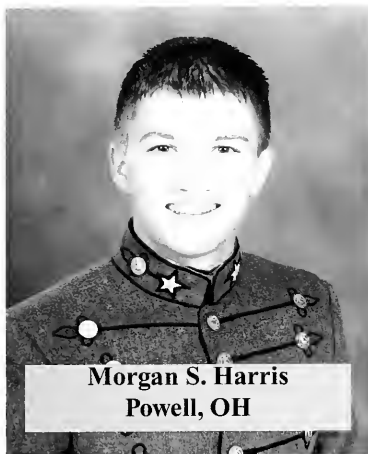
When I chose to go to VMI my high school classmates thought I was crazy, or just a little sick. I came to VMI for a challenge. Throughout my career at the institute I have accomplished much more than I ever expected. Every year spent at VMI has brought me closer to my roommates and the other members of the Corps who I see as friends and brothers. So much of VMI sounds more like propaganda after having been at this school for four years, but the bonds I have established here will last a lifetime. No other college knows the bonds that bind cadets at VMI together. My family and friends supported me in all my endeavors at VMI, but like every other cadet who has graduated from this institute the experience here is only accomplished through a personal strength that every brother rat carries. I loved to hate this school, and I will miss the life I shared with the class of 2004. I will miss my hardcore ranker roommate, Josh, and my mild mannered AOL instant messenger champion, Chip. I lived with you both for the last three years and will never forget the experience. I will especially never forget my roommate since rat year, Jon. To my road trip and spring break crew, and friends graduated and graduating good luck. Rats of 144, you all proved you stand above the rest, see you at graduation in 2007. No quotes and poetry are needed, I look forward to the next step. God bless all those left behind.

2001 - Shawn Hobbs
2007 - Patrick Johnsen

2001 - Mike Roberts
2007 - Mike Cornell, John Yohe

2001 - Bill Fitzpatrick
2004 - Ryan Gerald, Jeff Hamilton





**Morgan S. Harris
Powell, OH**

"Script, Nogi, Nogs, Morgie"
Army- Mechanical Engineering, Math

First off, I want to thank everyone who helped me get through this hell-hole and those few people that I could actually tolerate. First of all my roommates: Leroy, we lived together all four years and my VMI experience wouldn't have been the same without all your witty comments and all of our nicknames for all the kids I hate in the corps, which is damn near everyone. Bodie, although I will admit that I didn't like you when I first met you during soccer season, I learned to look past that dislike for the first time ever in life and you became one of my best friends. Ross, you've been there for almost everything these four years, all the soccer crap and everything else that brought us as close as we are. John D, even though I was scared of you before I met you because you always look pissed off, you are really just an old bastard f***. Ram, though we couldn't live together senior year because of some VMI crap, you are still considered my roommate. You've been there for everything. All the trips to Sweet Briar, all the late nights talking about anything and everything, all the jack runs, all the girl problems, and everything else I forgot to mention. Anything I needed you were there for me, so if you need anything at all, I'll be there. After my roommates, I have to thank my parents for making all of this possible, for kicking me in the ass when I needed it, and for picking me up when I needed it. I also need to thank Kimberly for always being there when I needed it. For being there through everything along with me, for being there when a close friend passed away, for being there when I just needed to get away. Finally, I have to thank everyone on the soccer team all four years I've been here. You all made four years on the soccer team more fun than I could imagine. Thank you to everyone else who influenced my life at VMI who I couldn't mention.

Soccer 1,2,3,4; Dean's List 1,2,3,4

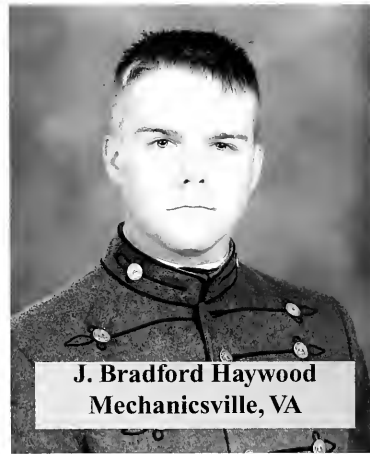


**Benjamin K. Hassell
Spartanburg, SC**

Army - Mechanical Engineering

Whoever would have imagined that a boy from South Carolina would pass up the Good 'Ole Boy tradition and pave his own way in the Virginia Valley. Though being very apprehensive at first, not knowing if this really was where the Lord wanted me, I realized fast that only blessings would flow from this hole in wall that inevitable has been a vestibule to some of our nation's finest military leaders. Within 3 days of the Ratline, my Army ROTC Scholarship was boosted up to a full 4-year scholarship, so then with school paid for my entire college career, I made a commitment. A commitment that I would do my everything to give back and try to improve such a place that already had so much, and that the only way I would ever leave would be in a body bag. From then on the tests started, and I soon learned that this place being hard would only harden me and strengthen myself physically, mentally and spiritually. Thank you VMI, but more importantly thank you all my buddies who made the journey so worthwhile. To Alpha, where my heart will always lie; Gary and your huge head and gashes; Zimm "Ronald McDonald" and all your CE brains; Clarence and the long nights of CE work and always being there; Christian the tornado on the canoe trip and brother in Christ; and Chunk learnin' to play the gut-fiddle, what a wild time we all have had. Thanks fellas for making the ride so enjoyable and memorable. To Momma, Daddy and Anna thanks for always believing in me. And finally to my love for life thanks Jess for all those late night calls and all the love and support. I LOVE YOU!! Now as we all begin to take that next step and again, go out and prove ourselves elsewhere, I will know that no matter what else may confront me that I will be ready, ready because I am a VMI MAN! VIRGINIA NIL!!

A 1st CPL 3; Ranger Challenge 3; 1st BN SGM 2;
Dean's List 1; REG CO 1



**J. Bradford Haywood
Mechanicsville, VA**

"Jablowme, Brad Haydown"
Army - Business and Economics

In being here for close to four years that saw the beginning of my adult life, I would have thought that I could figure out what led me to choose VMI. I can figure out many reasons why I'm glad I came here, and I can think of many reasons that I wish that I had never matriculated. I guess what it boils down to is my desire to have something that I couldn't get anywhere else, and I found that for certain. In retrospect, I am glad that I have done this. I just hope it was all worth it. Dan and Joel: thanks for putting up with me for three years. The conversations and weekends away have all been fun. I'll always remember the antics of our travels. Mike: I hope I never have to see your helicopter trick again. All the friends I've made doing the EMT thing: thanks for all your hard work, especially in this last year when I was pulled in a million different directions. Rats: I hope you succeed here; sometimes it takes more determination to stay sane than it seems worth. Make me proud. Mom and Dad: thank you for financing my education, always being willing to have friends come home with me, always tailgating during football season, and never-ending support. I would not have been able to do this without you. Finally, to those that doubted my ability to make it here: thanks for giving me a reason to succeed. FFS, I'm out.

ERT: 3,2,1 Lexington Rescue; 4,3,2,1 Powerlifting club; 3,2 Cadet Newspaper; 2,1 Bomb; 1 RDC: 1 NCMT cadre; 3,2,1 RDC virgin; 4 Sneaking a girl into barracks: 2

2001 - Adam Stanley-Smith

2007 - Michael Lloyd



2001 - Dan Campbell

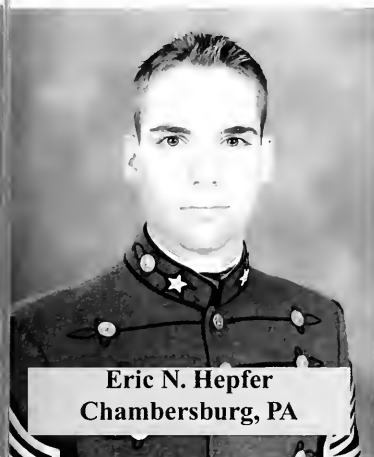
2007 - Rhett Butler, Cliff Schademan



2001 - Cannon Moss

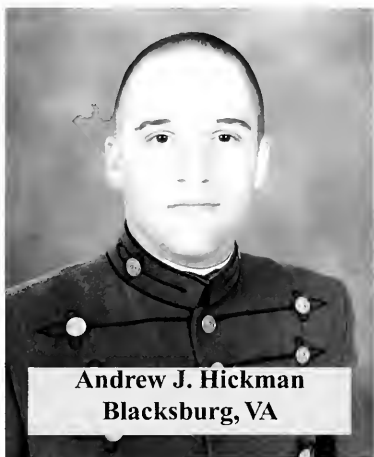
2007 - Josh Thompson, Grayson Ernst





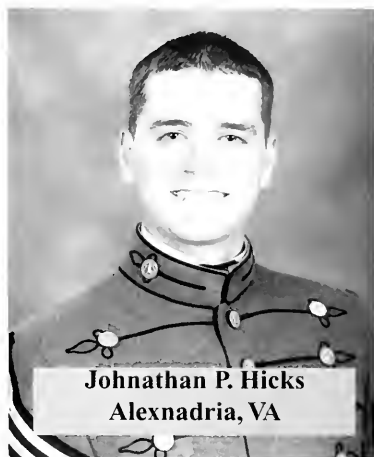
Eric N. Hepfer
Chambersburg, PA

Navy- Civil Engineering



Andrew J. Hickman
Blacksburg, VA

Army- Civil Engineering



Johnathan P. Hicks
Alexnadria, VA

*"Purty, Hickelstilskin, Hezikiaya "
Army - Civil Engineering*

VMI is a place I will never forget. While there are many things about VMI that have greatly disappointed me, I will walk away from the Institute full of good memories. Before I came to VMI, I was repeatedly told by alumni that I would make friendships that would last a lifetime. After four years, I have realized that what makes VMI worth it is the people. John and Daniel, I've lived with you guys since third class year, and I don't think I would have made it through without you guys. Ryan and Bob, its been awesome living with you guys as first classmen. We've had a lot of great times together on weekends, on confinement, working out, suffering through Nichols Engineering Building, and most importantly being dykes. I'll never forget any of you.

To the Rats of room 123, you all have great potential. Use that potential, and don't let VMI get the best of you. Be the best people you can be, and always remember that true honor means a lot more than never lying, cheating, or stealing.

Finally, and most importantly, I must acknowledge God. It was God that brought me to the Institute and God who has seen me through. The most important thing I got out of my time at VMI was a personal relationship with Jesus Christ

PVT 4, CPL 3, SGT 2, CPT 1; Religious Affairs Committee 3,2; Jazz Band 4, 3, 2; Tau Beta Pi 2,1; Strength and Fitness Club 2; Marathon Club 1

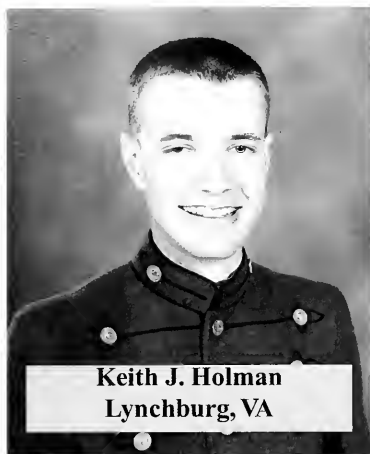
I came to VMI because I felt this school would challenge me to my limits unlike many of the other schools. In many respects it was a challenge, between the Ratline, academics as an engineer, participating in many numerous physical activities, to dealing with the people. Many people here would agree that the primary way you are able to get through this rigorous lifestyle is through the support and camaraderie between your roommates and your Brother Rats. My roommates are great guys and they always kept things interesting and upbeat. From the college tours to ring figure to our graduation, we made the best out of a sometimes socially suffocating place. Rats, can't forget about the little ties. It was a year of ups and downs for you all. Many of you were able to scrounge a ratline out of what you were allowed to do and I hope that when it is time for you all to receive your rings, you will look at it and remember what you accomplished the first six months you were here to earn that. I hope that one day you will pass on what we have taught you to your own rats so that the Institute will still be considered the toughest military college in the nation. My family, your support and advice during my time here at VMI will always be remembered. My dykes, your advice and mentorship brought me to where I am today and I tried the best I could to emulate you when with my Rats so that we could continue to have a strong dyke line. Lastly, my fiancé Denessa, you are one of the very few that have been there all four years for a cadet. You are the best thing in my life, the best thing that has even happened to me, always and forever. I love you.

NCAA Soccer 4; Club Soccer 3; Club Soccer ACIC 2; 2 Plt. Sgt. Bravo Co. 2; Club Soccer Captain1; 1st Batt. S-1 Lt. 1; Dean's List 4,1

*2001 - Mike Judge
2007 - Erin Hottle*

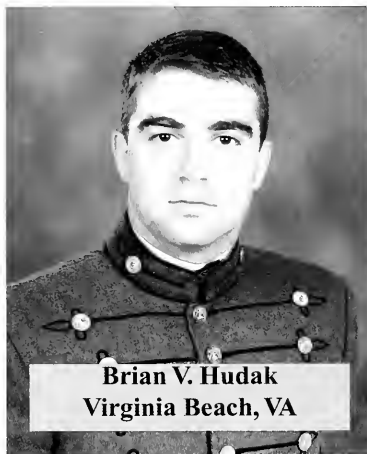
*2001 - Eric Harley
2007 - Kim Herbert*





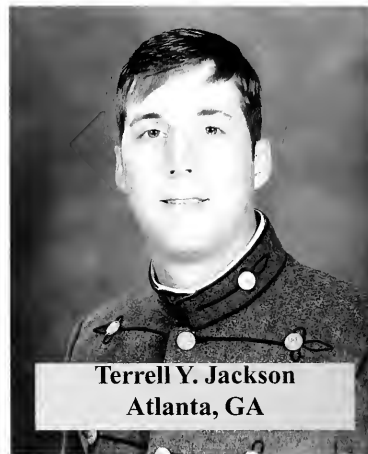
Keith J. Holman
Lynchburg, VA

Navy - History



Brian V. Hudak
Virginia Beach, VA

*Marine Corps-
Mechanical Engineering*



Terrell Y. Jackson
Atlanta, GA

Army - Business and Economics

I will never know a finer group of men, of such a high caliber, as I did at the Virginia Military Institute. I am indebted and owe much gratitude and thanks first and foremost to my personal Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. Without His grace, mercy, compassion, strength, and most importantly love, none of this would have been at all possible. My family, roommates, brother rats, not to forget my very own rats have constantly been there to help push me through this my final year with all of its challenges. Such an enduring experience is not lacking or without its great share of rewards either. The unbreakable bonds of friendships fostered here will last an eternity, and I will never forget them. To Brendan and John: I am proud and honored to know men such as yourselves that possess unmatched character and hearts with a genuine love for the Lord. I would not have wanted any other roommates than yourselves to help properly guide our rats. You are like brothers to me. To Byron and Justin: One of the real joys of my first class year rested with our relationship to each other. I am honored to have had the privilege of working with you men of such high potential and extreme dedication above and beyond what was expected of you both. You have truly made me proud. Never forget that. The spirit of 189 is not complete without all of the rats that knew that room well (Byron, Justin, Nathan, Will, and Tom). Col. Harlan K. Holman, USA (Deceased). USMA, Class of 1938. It is in his honor that I remember the sacrifices he made for all of us today and the advice he bestowed to me. May my diploma and my life serve as a testament to the glory of God!

If you are reading this, I am pretty sure that I graduated. These past four years have been the most interesting and challenging four years of my life. I learned that life is not fair and that everyone gets dealt bad breaks. VMI has taught me that it is not how a man deals with success, but rather how a man deals with disappointment that makes the man be is. I couldn't have made it through here without the constant support of my family and friends. I must say a special thanks to my family for putting up with all of my shenanigans; I don't know how you did it. I have met friends here that I wouldn't trade for the world. To all the guys who didn't make it (Noah, Nathan, Eddie, Mo, Rob, Leo, Doug) it hasn't been the same without you. To all the guys who survived (Porter (somehow), Will, Brian, Justin, Ray, Jarrett, Eric, Steve, Cyrus, Dan, and many more) you have been the best. We have had some unbelievable times, and I am amazed to say that we are all still around. The rats of S-15, especially Brian, I hope I have taught you things that will help you survive, but hopefully not too much. I have asked myself many times why I came to VMI and why I chose to stay. The answer is "I don't know." I don't think that anyone can tell you why they stayed, but I am glad I did. My life at VMI has come to a close, but my real life is just now starting. I thank VMI's system of unfair and biased treatment, to get me ready for the real world. To everyone who is following, good luck and keep your head up.

Fencing Club 3; Martial Arts Club 2; 2003
Shaara Scholar; Cadet Counseling Staff 1

Golf Team 4,3,2,1 CC 4,3,2,1

2001 - Tim Hackler, Eric Gannon
2007 - Byron Faidley, Justin Hancock

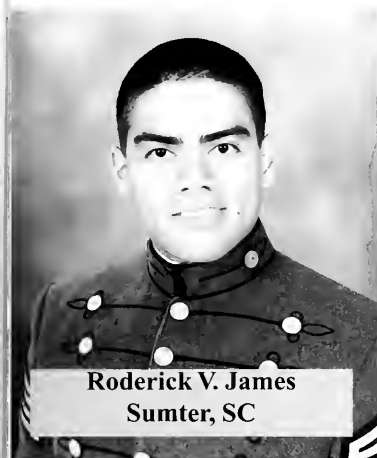


102 First Class



2001 - Doug Bates
2007 - Brian McGuire

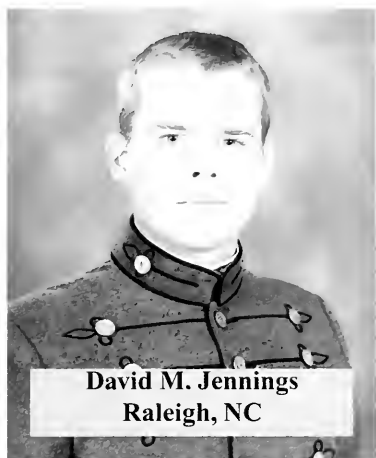




Roderick V. James
Sumter, SC

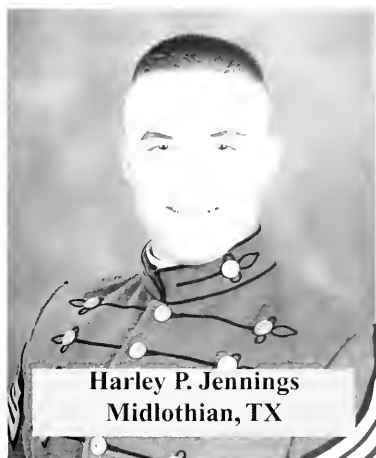
"ROD, HOTROD, AIRPOWER"

Air Force - Mechanical Engineering



David M. Jennings
Raleigh, NC

Army- Civil Engineering



Harley P. Jennings
Midlothian, TX

"Hmurder"

Army - Mechanical Engineering

First I would like to Thank God and my family for the encouragement and support to get through this place alive. VMI has truly been a unique experience and it is closing just as fast as it opened. I will miss this place but even more I will miss the guys that made this place so memorable. Christian, Harley, JJ, Joe, Ben, Ross, Mark, Matt and all the other guys, it's definitely been great knowing all of you and I look forward to seeing you guys at some football games and some of you on the battlefield. Rats, keep working hard and don't forget all the valuable lessons we have taught you. Don't ever give up on VMI or yourself. You can accomplish anything, if you want it bad enough. Last but truly not least it has been an Honor for me to serve on the Honor Court with some great guys who are willing to uphold the system. To the Court, keep fighting for what's right, and never give up until the fighting is done. "For they were all young men, exceedingly valiant for courage, and also for strength and activity. But behold this was not all, they were men who were true at all times, and whatsoever things, they were ENTRUSTED." Keep the Faith!

When I came to VMI, all I expected out of it was an experience like no other. Well four years later I can honestly say I got exactly what I was looking for. I have earned my ring and my commission in to the U.S. Army and I owe it all to my loving parents, grandparents, Whitney and Sarah. Thank you for the support and strength to realize my dreams and take them. None of this would have been a reality without you. Looking back, it was all about my closest friends and the bonds we all made through blood, sweat, and tears. Cleave, Rod, Stace, Ryan, Ryan, JJ, Joe, Koniak...you all are like brothers to me and I know our paths will cross once again. We did it, and best of luck in life after VMI. *Fight for tomorrow*

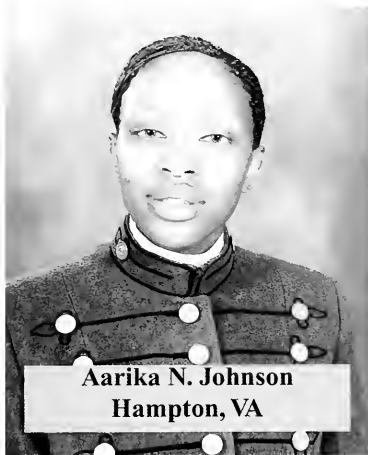
Cadre 1,2,3; Honor Court 1,2;
Triathlon Club 3

Cadre 3; F-troop Co 1

2001 - Ro Mercado
2007 - Chris Hidy, Michael Johnson

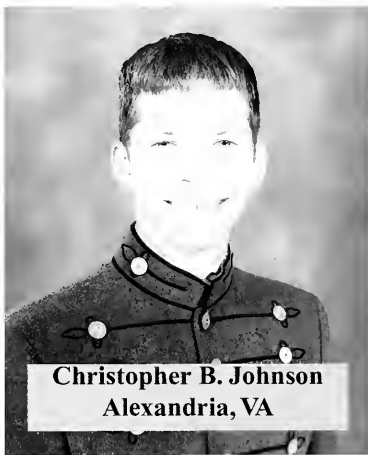
2001 - John McGrady
2007 - Justin Trowbridge





Aarika N. Johnson
Hampton, VA

Air Force - Psychology



Christopher B. Johnson
Alexandria, VA

*"Slippery Chris"
Air Force - Electrical Engineering*



Sarah E. Johnson
Springfield, PA

*"Sally, Sarah Sweetpants"
Army - English*

I remember watching my dykes do this and now, it's my turn so here it goes... A lot of people thought I wouldn't make it and even more think I'll probably curse the Institute, but I'll keep those thoughts to myself. I am one of those people who didn't realize what an opportunity I had until my grades were barely existent and I was on the verge of being suspended. Not many people got to know the real me and not many wanted to, for those who didn't, sad for you, and for those who did, I hope it was fun. I want to thank the Keydet Club (Class of 1950B) and the track coaches for making this all possible for me. I need to thank God, because He worked a miracle in me. Mom, Dad, Grams, Gramps and everybody, thank you guys for being there every step of the way, it means a lot to have the love and support of a REAL family at this place. I didn't have a host family or any substitutes, even better I always had you guys. Rodney, I've watched you for the last 20 years of my life and you've always given me strength and ambition to make mom and dad prouder...oh AND I graduated first. Kevin, I will always love you. When I had nobody, I had you. We've been through a lot together and it's been nothing but fun, you will always be my friend. Ketra, they hate on you because they don't know you. Don't change for anybody, they'll grow to like you. Keep it real always, YOUR happiness comes first. Mildred Michelle, of all my possible room combinations, this was the absolute best and we didn't even have to use boxing gloves. Stop stashin' and relax a little. If you weren't mentioned... must be a reason why! I'm done, I'm finished. Goodbye VMI.

Women's Track and Field 4,3,2,1; Women's Track Team Captain 2,1; Class of 1950b; Scholarship Recipient 3,2,1; Letter Athlete 4,3,2,1; John M. Connor Award 3

Lets start this out with one phrase I have learned to cherish throughout my four years here: good times at bad places. VMI has been somewhat of a thorn in my side. However, underneath all the turmoil, grief, and hard times here at the 'I', I have to admit that my experience has not been without reward. Mummy, Daddy, and family - Your support and frequent visits are what got me through. I love you all and owe you more than you can even begin to understand. First and foremost, my dykes: Billy, Mark, Tom - Thanks for all the support and help. You were always there if I needed help, even if you were playing Age of Empires, out studying *all* the time, or at Chinese class. Nate & Chuck - STP roomies. You two are the best. Bottom line. Phil, Nate, Colin - even though the BDT will pass into the VMI history books this May, I will never forget. Feeva - may you never lose your flare and style. Matt - remember that girls are not quadratic equations. Josh - it's been an honor blowing things up with you. EE's - too much to say, too little space. Austin - keep your head up high and push on through. It may suck at times, but it is all worth it in the end. We are always here if you need help. Alexis - I love you. You have been my savior these past two years, even during my nine weeks of confinement. Someone once told me that VMI would grow on me and I would miss it after graduation. At that time I laughed and said never! Now when my time at VMI is coming to a close, I am proud of what I have done and will miss all the good times and great memories.

I attribute my diploma to my parents, Wylie and Karen Johnson, who have supported me and encouraged me in everything I have done. Thank you for putting up with my life away from home. I love you. My sisters have helped my life here in their own ways, whether it was by calling me, sending me packages or coming to visit. Having gone to VMI I met the three most amazing women possible, my roommates. My roommates were there through the thick and the thin; always making the best of the situation we were in. Mariah, Libbi and Erica, you are all my very best friends, thank you for making my life bearable here. Libbi, since STP we've been together and no one could separate us. Soccer, English, Supper and working out, don't forget our bet on the black dress. Erica, we met in English class and became friends forever. Living together (even in the summer), breaking beds and hearts together. Don't forget to take my kids in the summers. Mariah, my first memory of you is drinking in your parent's hotel room. Adventure before our 20 mile rat force march, corps trips, bars down town, you are a great confidant. Don't forget our secret "naked-time". Ray, without you the last two years would have been almost impossible; we kept the corps entertained with our soap opera lives. So many memories we have made together, including Hawaii, weekends, the alley way, Mirage, Kings Dominion, families, barracks with the boys, your "other" girlfriend, and all your sweet kisses. Thank you to all the ladies that became my good friends, including the soccer team, room 118, my favorite rat roommates Nadia and Maja. To all my guy friends, you guys kept me here. Special shout out to Derek and Brice. And finally to my rats, you were awesome, the best I could have asked for. Raevon and Hatley, I love you both. Ladies of room 124.

Woman's Soccer Team 4, 3, 2; English Society 3, 2; Big Brother Program 2; Coached High School Tumbling 2; Marshal New Market Staff S2 1; Deans

2001 - Gussie Lord
2007 - Ketra Alexander

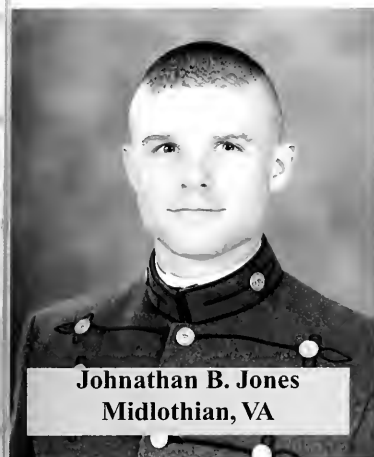


2007 - Jay Tomsyck, Brandon Price,
Danny Plitnik, Austin Cronin



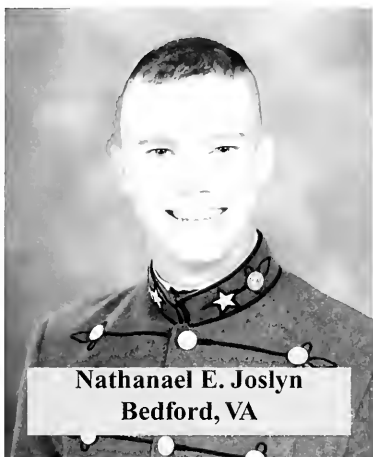
2001 - Brian Wright, Ben Stanley
2007 - Raevon Pulliam, Hatley Clifford





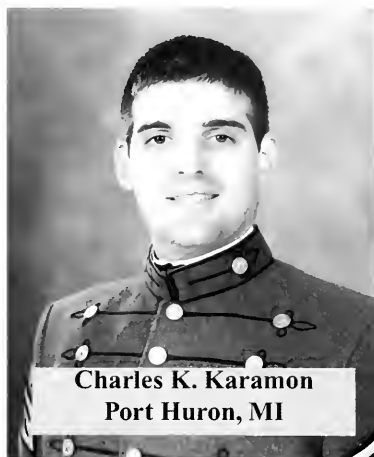
Johnathan B. Jones
Midlothian, VA

"JJ. Jage Monkey. Samurai Jack"
Army- Psychology



Nathanael E. Joslyn
Bedford, VA

"Nasty Nate, Nate-Dawg"
Army - International Studies



Charles K. Karamon
Port Huron, MI

"The Chuck, Creepy Chuck"
Air Force - Physics

First, I would like to thank my entire family for all the help and support they have provided. Family is the most important thing in my life and I cannot thank them enough for all they have done. To my parents, Dawn and Steve, I would like to say thank you for putting up with all I have put you through and I love you very much. Daniel, good luck in the Marines and remember, Mom and Dad may seem like they are against you but they are looking out for you. I didn't see it when I was younger but now I do. To Charles Ransom '01, my dyke, thank you for all the help you gave me during my rat year. Good luck in all you future endeavors. Finally I would like to thank the Room 101 gang. I could not have picked a better bunch of guys to room with. Joe, good luck after graduation and don't dig any more 7 foot pits around your house. Rod, Good luck in the Air Force and blow something up for me. Harley, good luck in the Army and don't forget about the money you owe me from our wager ("Sarah, I hope you like your ring"). VMI has been a great experience, and it has taught me many things. What I have learned here, I can take with me and use for the rest of my life. As the saying goes, "VMI is a great place to be from, not a great place to be!"

To describe this passing chapter of my life would be a literary undertaking that could only be done justice by volumes of agony and ecstasy that would carry little value to the passing eye or the sentimental historian. Instead, I prefer to flank right and instead drop a few grievously insufficient words of thanks mixed with several insinuations of the passing epics that routinely filled the lives of those who made the journey with me. Howie, Chris, and David - you guys taught me everything I needed to know, both while you were here and after you left. Frank, if it hadn't been for your truck I would have gone nuts as a third. When '04 walks the stage the legacy of the BDT will forever pass into the annals of history. Collin, Phil and Chris - we took our losses and came out on top. Bottoms up. Charlie and Chuck - you are two of the most scandalous journalists ever to walk the earth. We had a hell of a time, whether we were in Maury Brooke at 0230, or at full sprint across the parade deck, inbound from the Palms at 2258. Justin and the rest of my Army pals - we made it. Good luck, and I look forward to serving with you. Mom and Dad - thanks for everything; I couldn't have done it without you. Erin, I don't know what kind of man I'd be if it weren't for you. Your love and strength are beyond my understanding. Soli Deo Gloria.

I guess I should be saying thanks to everyone who made life livable. Starting back in STP, Nate, Chris, and Phil - we all know the evil of Goshen, STP gave way to the Rat Line. Sully and Noah Flemming, I remember those good times as rat roommates. Crackers from the hospital, hay sliding down the stoop, rolling three hays at the same time. Sully's "Sir...errr...Ma'am," quietly passing the flask between the three of us, pre-parade Metallica *One*, and many more to talk about over drinks at The Palms. Hotel BR's, I couldn't have been in a different company. Whether it was the post Sweat Party "I hate you fat Chinese Guy," a "I'm here to fix the pool," fallout, or a snowball assault of a band company rat room, those were the times that made rat year fun. Third class year, rooming with Ben and Noah Deihl was a continual battle to keep ourselves ball up free and our hays safe in our rooms. Go-tel cadre corporals, we did a great job. This was a great year of getting to know the guys that had made our lives crappy, the year before i.e. '02 and '03. Second class year, Ring Figure year, Steve and Jared are the new roomies. Ring figure was the first on the highlight reel for that year. Operations Sergeant was my ultimate time pirate, but I wouldn't give up those weekends stuck on guard. Nate brought me into the fold of *The Cuckert*, and with that a new chapter of VMI. 1st class year, rooming with Jared and The Bob. I don't know what I would have done this last year without the combined powers of the roommates and the publications staff to keep me sane. Charlie, Dan, Mike, Nate, Joel, et al., I don't know where I'm going to find another group with the same sick humor and addiction to Halo. Some one, allegedly smarter than I, entrusted a rat to my care. An honorable mention must be made for summer school, Slava, The Bob, Special K, and the rest of us over achievers. "To good times, in bad places!"

Ranger Company 4; NCMT 3,2,1; The Cadet 2,1; Drum Captain 2; RDC 2; BDT 3,2,1; Super Intense Club 4,3,2,1

Mounted Color Guard 3, 4th Cpl 3, Ops Sgt 2, 1st PL LT 1, Ranger Company 2, The Cadet 2, 1, The Bomb 2, 1, Super High Intensity Club 1, Palms Challenge 1, NBLF 2, 1, SPS 4, 3, 2, 1

2001 - Howie Cook, Chris Gaddy, David Gray
2007 - Jay Tomsyck, Brandon Price,
Danny Plitnik, Austin Cronin

2001 - John Turner
2007 - Brandon Kelly





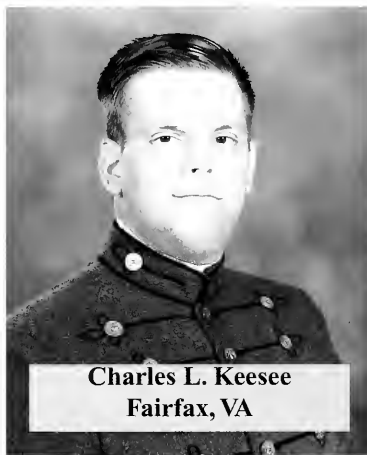
Chi-Wen Ke
Washington, DC

"The Asian Sensation"

Air Force- Mechanical Engineering

Just like that, 4 years gone. Never met anyone like you. I could go on, and make this sappy and girly, but I want to save you the trouble of being teased. You know what you mean to me, and you know I'll never forget. You're unbelievable and hope you always stay that way. Wish you the best in the Navy...never forgot your good memories here in the states. Most importantly, never forget me =)

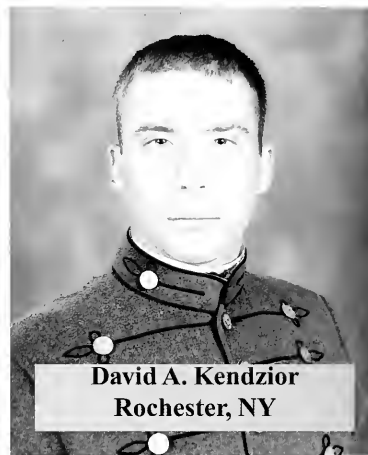
~Sandy Su



Charles L. Keese
Fairfax, VA

Army - Mechanical Engineering

What can I say, it is the end of my first class year and I am at a loss for words. The past four years have gone by very quickly. It seems like almost yesterday that I was pushing as a rat, and now I'm ready to graduate. These years have prepared me for the world, or at least taken me around it two times. Thanks to all the numerous people who have helped me other these years. Especially thanks for support as my academic endeavors attempted to mix Mechanical Engineering and History. Thanks for pushing me on when I wanted to procrastinate and not work. Nick and Nate, you two were awesome nephew rats. Good luck in your four years. Live up to your dykes expectations of you, but try to get better grades than we did.



David A. Kendzior
Rochester, NY

"Monkey"

Navy- Mechanical Engineering

I could say that being here was a waste of four years of my life. I came here wanting to go into the Navy, and be a SEAL. That dream was shattered when my scholarship was stripped from me because of my blindness. I still wonder why I didn't leave after that. I guess I have too much pride. It's just a shame that I had to be here while the school lost all dignity. Well I'm at least glad I'll be long gone when the school gets its synchronized swimming team, which I'm sure is well on the way. But I can't say things were all bad. I'm glad I stuck around to graduate. VMI showed me exactly what poor leadership is. Now I know exactly what not to do. Besides, I made some pretty damn good friends here. Later, we had some damn good times from STP, till the very end. Thanks for everything. Kent, you were a great drinking buddy. Sanders, we had some long nights in NEB, but a good time none the less. To all my roommates, teammates and ME majors, best of luck. Chris, I'm sure you'll do fine. Just have some control of your cocky self. As for me, who knows where I'll end up. Now that I got eye surgery I might just try the military again. I could just put my major to use and get a job. Or, could just drift around the world like Caine from Kung Fu, and go around solving people's problems.

Corporal 2; Cadet Battery 3,4; Dean's List 1,3,4

Fencing Team 4,3,2; Delta Company Private 4,3,2,1; Christmas Light King 1

Rugby 3,2,1; RDC 1; Cadre 3,2; Title IX 1; Fight Club 3,2

2001 - Liu, Lin
2007 - Liu, Shu-chang



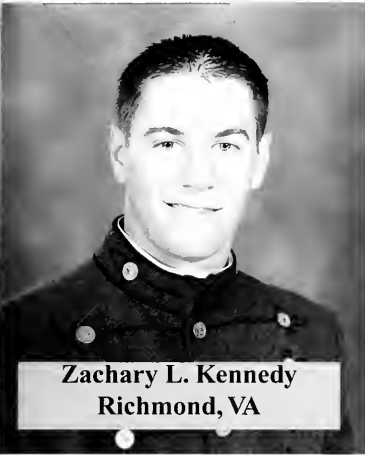
106 First Class

2001 - Adam Burton



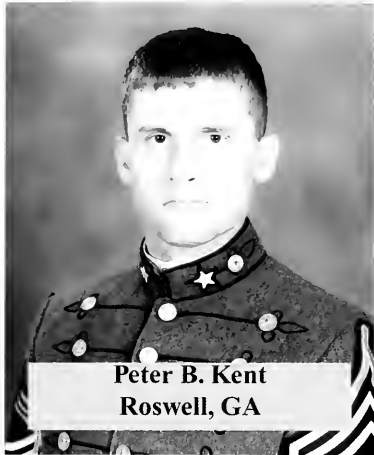
2001 - Pat Hurley
2007 - Chris Guy





Zachary L. Kennedy
Richmond, VA

Army- Economics



Peter B. Kent
Roswell, GA

Air Force-Biology



Stan J. Keilczewski
Cary, NC

Marine Corps-Grad School - Major

I am finally leaving VMI! I never thought this day would come, but thanks to the Lord and my family I made it through. Thank you Mom, Dad, Stephanie, Jonathan, and Chessie for all of ya'lls support. Now it's time to move on to bigger and better things. See you soon Mr. Trump!

I intend these brief remarks for those still young at heart, no doubt studying the faces of the past. If you're searching for the key to success here, stop looking! You cannot gather any amount of wealth which holds more value than the fulfillment gained from contributing to another's life. Sorry if this disappoints you - but if you heed these words, I will have saved you precious time. I encourage you, instead, to discover true success in the health of your relationships with God first and then with those around you - it will require some effort and sacrifice. Find bliss also in the mysteries you've not yet uncovered. The characteristics to succeed may seem many but remain simple and you will have lived a fulfilled life.

How valuable is an experience if it can be de-valued when someone else, perhaps someone you don't like, can also go through it?

Why would anyone think that VMI is not the "real world"? Are people out there any less or more real than they are in here? Will hardship be easier to bear or pleasures more intense?

What are you complaining about? When will you begin to live better, rather than waiting on things to get better around you?

Where, out there, is it *right* to abuse and take advantage of your subordinates, and pass this off as leadership? Should it continue to be right here?

For whom did you do all of this for? If the only answer you can come up with is yourself, perhaps now is the time to find someone, something else.

Baseball 1,2,3,4

Corporal 3; Master Sergeant 1; 2nd Bat S-1; Training and Investigative Committee Member 2; Religious Affairs Committee Head of Missions 3; VMI Marching Band and Pipe and Drum Corps Member 4,3,2; CIC Triathlon Club 2, 3; VMI Dean's List 1, 2, 3, 4; Academic Stars 1,2,3 : PH

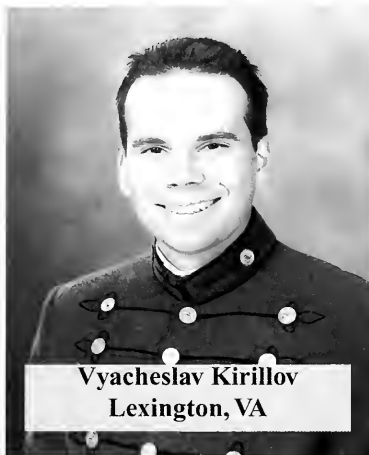
Cadre 1, 2, 3; Triathlon Club 1, 2, 3; French & English Honor Society 1, 2, 3.

2001 - Chris Catanzaro
2007 - Corey Bachman

2001 - Steve Skakandy, Brad Leigh, Charles De Courcel
2007 - Jamal Walton, David Yi, Andrew Maxwell

2001 - Ethan Weber
2007 - Julie Lovingshimer,
Tyler Freeman





Vyacheslav Kirillov
Lexington, VA

"Russian, Commie, Sputnik, Krellov, KiriLove"
Army- Economics



Michael A. Kirk
Rock Hill, SC

Army- Psychology



Thananart Klongcheongsar
Washington, DC

"Note, K"
Marine Corps- Physics, Math

Just as the Soviets launched Sputnik into space much to U.S. despair, Slava was enrolled in VMI. But Slava continues to stand by his word that he is not a Soviet spy ... actually I prefer to think of him as a soldier of the Russian mob. Either way you have always maintained the belief that the Institute cannot bone you for not shaving or getting a haircut. "I mean what can they do to me?" And then you end the semester with 74 demerits, after making a deal with Frnd-dog ... you must be really good Slava. There is also the high-pitched laugh you place in the middle of your own jokes; it is almost as bad as Big B. Like the time you took half of the Valentines heart and made it into a thong, wearing it on the stoop for display. Or the many festive nights during the ratline when Bravo could find nothing better to do but ball you up. Then came Ring Figure; sure you had the opportunity to go with a cute, blonde but instead you chose to go with the infamous alcoholic (Devon). It was good of you to try to take a grenade for a BR; unfortunately it blew up in your face. You were a true keydet, however and immediately left her, proceeding to drink yourself into a perplexing coma. The question still stands as well, "What are you looking at? ... Stalin." While your taste in music and fashion has been severely stunted by your Euro-trash up bringing, you have always been there for your BRs. Even when that includes holding an ear-candle, or perhaps giving a back rub and even going as far as to create a rat nest with two BRs. This second half of the ambiguously gay duo will never be forgotten not matter how hard we may try. When we picture you it will always be you driving around a traffic circle in Moscow listening to You Drive Me Crazy, trying to pick up high school chicks.

Rat 4, Lance Corporal 3, Private 2, Bravo OGA
Rep.1

During the past four years, I must say that VMI is the turning point which totally changed my life. It was the first time I felt the real effectiveness of the honor system. My cadre and my brother rats taught me how to motivate myself and what the VMI spirit is all about.

Dad and Mom, you're the most important people in my life. I want to thank you Na'Lek and Na'Lewis, Na'Porn and Na'Dave, P'Pock, P'Daung, P'Chat, P'Nueng, Game (Sommair), Pump (Sompong), Gym (Somjainuk, K2) for taking care of me while I was at VMI. I couldn't get through VMI without all your help and support. I want to thank my roommates Chino, Head, Dan, Ham, Ke, Linko, and Dennis. I won't forget the rubber band fight, a special for a penny fight, Chen's fault for going to the gay beach, my birthday in Las Vegas, Dan's punk songs and his GF, Ham for being my history advisor and letting me borrow DVDs, Linko's cat meat and the free TOEFL tutor, Dennis is the best proofreading machine, Chen's chocolate, Chuck for teaching me physics, and Corrado's weight lifting tips. Linko, if you are missing something, then it's on Chino's desk. HYAAAAA !!! CHING CHONG CHONG CHING (whatever)!!! BOOOO !!! A LA LA LA LAI !!! SEMPER FI !!!

2001 - Melissa Williams
2004 - Vincent "Artie" Noel



108 First Class



2001 - Thayagiat Chanarat
2007 - Komgrit Kotcharaksa





Ryan E. Koniak
Shelton, CT

Army- History



Ryan J. Kozoil
Fairfax, VA

Navy - Mechanical Engineering

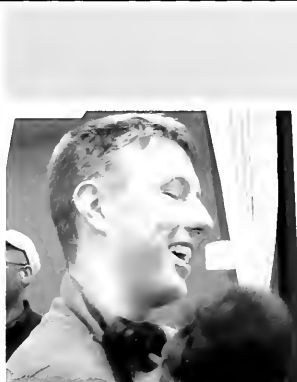
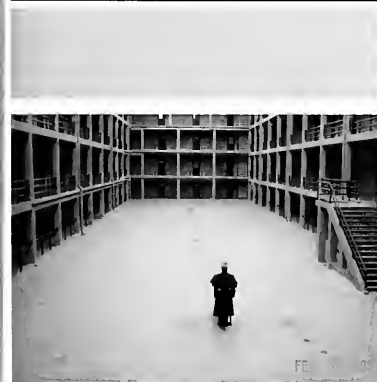


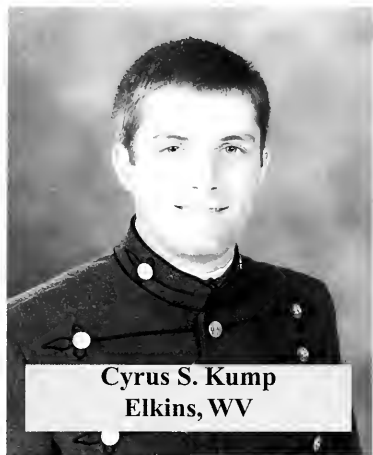
Ilija Krklec
Split, Croatia

Army- Computer Science

Some instances when I think back about my experience at VMI it seems like time just flew by. Other instances it seems like I've spent an eternity here. This place has a tendency to distort time perception. It's been a tough experience, but one I will cherish. When life gets hard I'll just think about all the endless nights I spent in the Nichol's Engineering building. For someone who always hated homework I definitely picked the wrong major, but I'm glad I gutted it out. My motivation was to get a commission. That goal was achieved which made all the hardships worthwhile.

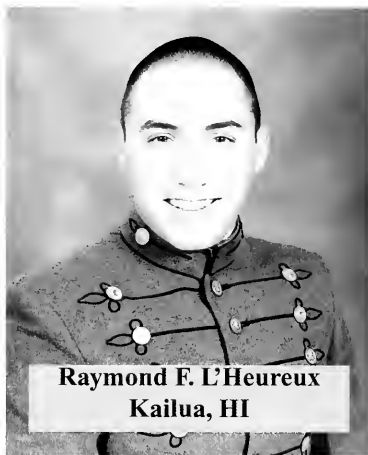
Tau Beta Pi 2; Marathon club 1; Triathlon club
3; Dean's list 4,3





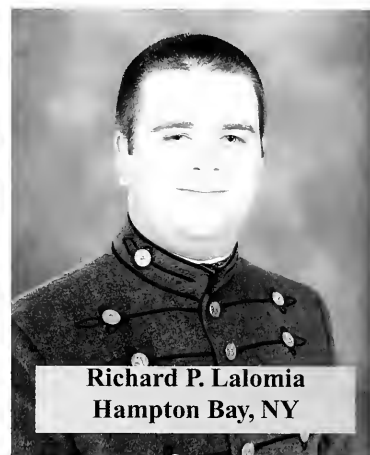
Cyrus S. Kump
Elkins, WV

*"Cyrus the Virus, Cy, Russ"
Army - Civil Engineering, Math*



Raymond F. L'Heureux
Kailua, HI

*"Dirty, Ray for Brains"
Marine Corps - History*



Richard P. Lalomia
Hampton Bay, NY

*"Lobbi, Bellushi"
Army - International Studies*

When I think back on the four years at VMI, one of my best memories is playing basketball third class year with all of my best friends every night for hours and not studying. It was great and always many games to be played. I had fun with all my friends all four years. I learned a lot about life and how to manage in good times and not so good times. I am happy with the decision that I made to stay here and stick it out, even though at times it was not nearly as good as possibly burning couches at WVU after they stomped Tech!! I wish all of my Brother Rats the very best and hope that each of you finds success in all that you do. Steve, Biff, Leo, Noah, and Matt, we definitely had a lot of laughs in the room (at all hours) doing all kinds of funny scandalous stuff. Haha. I will never forget the late nights with Liff and Cage in NEB and the many trips to Staunton. And you rats, you all were the best: stick it out, have fun, and make the most of your experience at VMI. It is not always a great place to be, but it is a great place to be from.

WELL, what can I say about the four most wonderful years of my life? I'm a firm believer in that the people make the place, and the only way I could have made it though was with some of the best friends I have ever met by my side. These friends have seen me at my greatest, usually after a night on the town, and at my lowest, also usually after a night on the town. Joe, brother, I'll see you in the fleet and we will always have Honolulu, by the way you owe me a shirt. Cokedawg. It won't be the same without brother IZ. Rushin, welcome back. I knew you had it in you. Lessen, thanks for the laughs, especially when they come out after meeting our Australian nanny. OD, here's to good times, taxi rides, and Savannah and the revenge of the sex toy. To all those out there that have let me bum smokes and dip the whole time I've been here, I thank you, but my lungs and mouth do not. And finally the last person I would like to thank from here is Sarah, thank you for the wonderful times; you have taught me so much. Now I have to thank my parents and my sister. I really couldn't have done it without your unconditional love and support. To the Marines, hoorah motivators. With that I'm going to have to end this trip down memory lane. It's been great and I wouldn't trade any of my time here for anything in the world. I came here an innocent young man eager to learn, and I left here as DIRTY.

Four long years are finally completed. Mom and Dad thanks for all the support and encouragement. Couldn't have done it without you two. Everyone agrees this place sucks, so then why do we keep coming back to face confinement, PTs, loser Tacs, Crozet, Admin, Inspections, the HC, and other fun stuff? The only reason I can come up with is my friends. The friends that are made here have a profound effect on you. They are the ones that make it worth coming back, despite the crap that goes on day in and day out. It's the times out in Lex drinking; going to JMU, SBC, Raddy, out of control corps trips, the drinking in barracks, keeping a pet dog in the room, and everything else that we did. Joe, Bob, Mike we have a wealth of good times and stories. You guys made VMI bearable all four years. 161 tight crew made senior year the best because we went out every weekend and each one was better and better. Roommates, drinking buddies, and friends; it's been fun.

Dean's List 1,2,4; Private 1,2,3,4; Rat Challenge 2,3; Football 4; Intramurals 1,2,3,4 Big Red Club 1,2,3,4

Cadre-3,2 Rugby-4,3 Semper Fi-2,1 RDC-2,1 Sheddt Lover- 2,1

Fifth Stoop Club 4; NB Water Balloon Team 4; Rugby 3; Midnight Cocktail Club 3; Ac Pro 3; Con Pro 3; Number One Club 3,2; Summer School Scholar 4,3,2; Mirage Crew 2,1; PVT 4,2,1

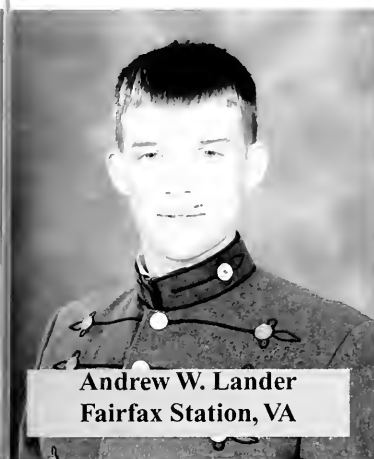
2001 - Brian Wilson

2007 - Colin Burns, Misha Konev, John Woloshuk



*2001 - Nick "The Nose" Pomero
2007 - Dave Riedel*

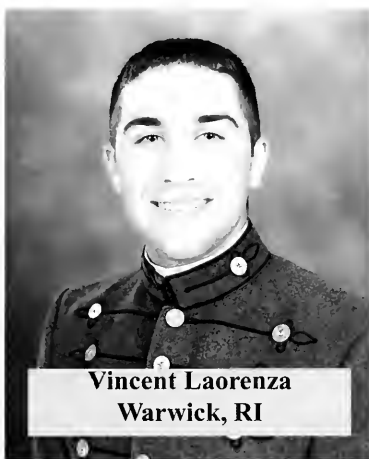




Andrew W. Lander
Fairfax Station, VA

"Landers"

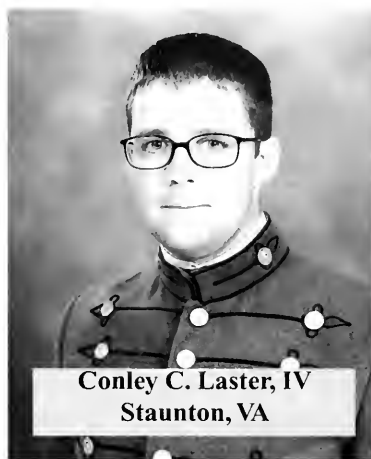
Army- Economics



Vincent Laorenza
Warwick, RI

"Wop"

Army - Mechanical Engineering



Conley C. Laster, IV
Staunton, VA

"Clark"

Army - History

Thank you Mom and Dad for being the greatest parents ever and supporting this insane and ludicrous choice that is VMI. To my two brothers Nate Dogg and Tiny Tim, you guys have been great siblings.

To my roommates Johnny Pballer Puvogel and Dave Polekat Poldiak, you guys have been the greatest roommates ever. Life's been interesting since I've lived with you guys and only gets more enjoyable. I'll miss the long deep conversations and the advice I always ask for, but never seem to follow. I know you guys will kick ass and take some names next year. To Dave Harris, Greg Harris, Michelk Cerrillo and Eric Poole you guys have been great. I hope now the nightmare in satan's playground is over I can follow my boyhood dream of traveling the world like Kang in Kung Fu "The legend will continue." To my rats, I hope you live the legend and remember slomp lives the dream "alive."

"Another turning point a fork stuck in the road time grabs you by the wrist directs you where to go so make the best of this test and don't ask why it's not a question but a lesson learned in time. It's something unpredictable, but in the end it's right. I hope you had the time of your life!" GOOD RIDDANCE Green Day.

It's finally First Class year and I've been asked to summarize, in roughly 325 words, my VMI experience. Well, this may be near impossible. I often hear that VMI is a great place to be from, but a horrid place to be. Maybe to a Third this concept provides some sense of satisfaction or maybe an excuse to be miserable, but in about five months, all those people that I've grown so close to will quickly be torn from me. I can't say that I'm incredibly excited. One shares joy, sorrow, suffering, and success with them, and nothing forms stronger bonds. I'm going to miss the sick sense of humor, barracks antics, movie nights, and the strangest of after Taps debates. Sully, Rory, Mark, my rat roommates Ben and Kenny, you guys have been awesome. We've all shared some great times and I wish you all the best. Mom and Dad, you guys have done a great job supporting me through this whole VMI experience. When my grades were anything but wonderful or when I wanted to pull my hair out, you were there. Thanks. I'll have to give Jim some credit for starting me off on the right foot. I couldn't have asked for a better dyke. Last, and certainly not least, to Natasha, I consider myself the luckiest of all to have met you. We've experienced quite a bit in such a short time at school and whether it's been good or bad, having shared it with you has been more than incredible. It just wouldn't be the same without you here. I look forward to our future together. I love you. To all, good luck. I hope to see you all again soon.

Over my time at VMI I have realized that though some may feel like this is the worst thing to have ever happened to us. That once we step back, we will realize that some of our best friends were made here. Though we will be gone, the people we have met will come with us on our way. Some of them we will never see again, and others we may see too much, but on the whole the last four years have been some of the best of my life. From the morning formations, to the boiling hot football games we sweated out in the stands for, it was worth it. I could not have survived these years without my Best Friend and True Love Erin Tanner, thank you for all the support through all the years of VMI, without you I could have never made it. Also thanks to my Dyke Jim Bourie, you made it hard as Hell and I thank you for that. For my best friends Paul Julian and Dave (Monkey) Kendzior, and Stephen thanks for making me stay in shape and letting me vent my anger. And for all the Roommates that have endured me over the years, Nat, Brice, Tim, Dave x3, Kent, Andy, Jason, Head, and Peter, the best room orderly ever. Thank you. To the Rats in the room, Vic, Chris, and Matt I wish you well and study hard. Sorry that it was not all that hard for you, but graduation was a priority as we all know. But at least you were able to move that desk and let me go to the GC for the first time in my cadetship.

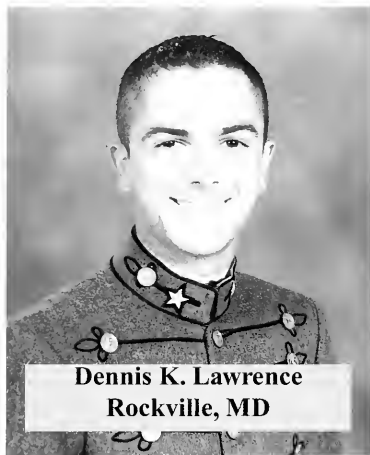
Soccer Club 3.4; Clerk for Bravo Company 3;
Rat Challenge Company Cadre 1.2.3; Rugby
1.2

2001 - Eric R. Poole
2007 - Mike Falcon and Mike Fagar

2001 - James Gleason
2007 - William Doyle

2001 - Jim Bourie
2007 - Victor Rosen





Dennis K. Lawrence
Rockville, MD

"The Study Abroad King"
Air Force - Mathematics



Pei-Chun Lee
Washington, DC

Army - Mathematics



Johnathan J. Lessen
Germantown, MD

"Flounder, JJ"
Army - Biology

My cadetship, while unorthodox, turned out to be one of the most worthwhile investments I have made in my life to date. Ever since I walked through Jackson Arch on matriculation day, I have been blessed with an extraordinary amount of luck that at times seems too good to be true. I can proudly say with absolute certainty that I have fulfilled the principle purpose of why I chose to attend VMI: To steer my life into a more positive direction. While this place has disillusioned me time and time again, it justly merits credit for all of the unbelievable opportunities overseas it has given to me that have forever changed my life. From Havana to Saint-Cyr to Australia and beyond, I have seen sights and met individuals that have shaped my life in ways I would have never thought possible a few years ago. What an incredible trip it's all been.

To my mom and Jose: There is no way I could possibly repay you for all the support you have given to me over the past four years. I hope you understand how important you are to me. To my mentor Florent: Your lessons are not forgotten. Thank you for your guidance. To General Farrell: If I am half the man you are when I grow old, I know I will have done something with my life. To Colonel Bulger-Barnett: I would have never made it to Cuba without you. To Dr. Leva: Thank you for convincing me not to leave. To my roommates and the rats of C-31: Regardless of what you decide to do with your lives, make sure you put forth your full effort into the cause. Never, ever settle for mediocrity.

Be Prosperous. —Niccolo Machiavelli

Ac Stars 3,2,1; Cpl 3; Rat Challenge Cadre 3;
Study Abroad 2; 1st Class Pvt 1

First of all I want to thank my parents who encouraged me to come here, so I could meet you guys.

Then thanks for my roommates to support me, assist me and be with me whenever I'm down, upset or in trouble.

Last, I want to thank you all, my brother rats. You all make my life different. I really have had good time with you guys during those four years. I love you all.

God bless VMI, America and Taiwan

Oh how can I count the ways of sinful debauchery: **Rat year:** gold card, VMI Jackass, Bones and 40oz., Piggly Wiggly, first bar fight, Zulu **Third Class:** "B", Scary Mary, bipolar girlfriends, Australian nannies, failed threesome, Savannah again, rugby trips, Natty Guard, Café Risqué, Leisure suits, Bubba Gumbo's, the start of the beat box... **Second Class:** Ring Figure, Cheap Wine Night, Wife beaters and whitey tighties, M.I.P at JMU, 22 BAC, Panther Falls, Cuba?, mopping NB at 5 a.m., "Mission Accomplish" (front and back door), Hollins, helping girls check into Anorexia Anonymous, "Smooth to the Wall", 21st Birthday. **First Class:** Corps Trip, "Old Jon", Fighting Cock, "The Plan", "Crushcilian", nut sniffing roommate, Dancing at the Mirage, Spank Me's, finished tattoo, Afghanistan?, Steff and the rest of the gurlies at Sweet Bush, Savannah again. And many other drunken nights across VA. Thanks goes to Skoal and everyone who I bummed dips from. Thanks must go to my parents for money, tailgates, and patience. To all my friends and fellow ruggers "May God bless those who love us. And to those who don't, may God twist their ankles so that we might know them by the way they walk." But most of all, big ups to my boys Dirty Ray, Jon, OD, and C-Note Coakley. For all the times we had and the ones I don't remember. We made the best of it because Life is about stories.

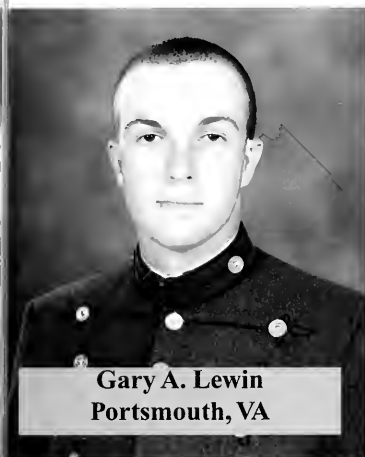
Rugby -1,2,3,4, All Pro-3, Private-1,2,3,4
Summer School- 2,3 CCS-1 Jazz Ensemble- 4,3

2001 - Brett Carter
2007 - Ahmed Safy El-Din, Ben DiMeolo



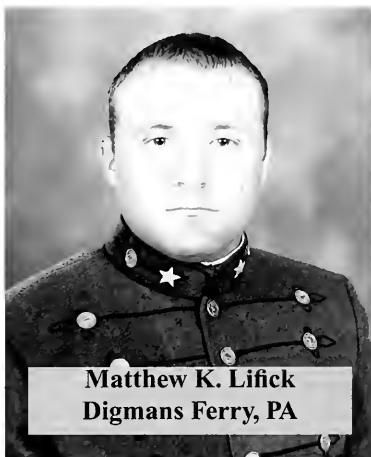
2001 - Brian Patterson
2007 - Brad Pruitt





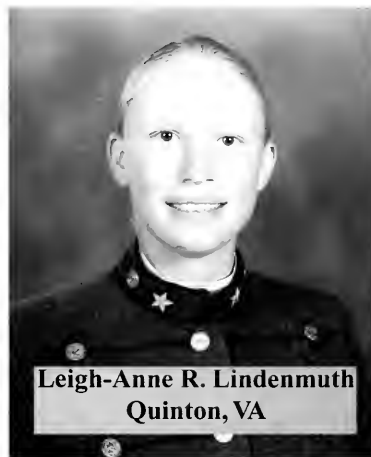
Gary A. Lewin
Portsmouth, VA

Air Force - Civil Engineering



Matthew K. Lifick
Digmans Ferry, PA

"Lift"
Air Force - Civil Engineering



Leigh-Anne R. Lindenmuth
Quinton, VA

Army - Chemistry

The past four years here at VMI have been the toughest and hardest years of my life. I'm still not sure why I came here but hopefully I will look back on these years to say it was all worth it. I would like to thank my family and friends for supporting me through these four years. Mom and dad, you have had faith in me in everything I have done in life even if I slipped along the way. I don't know what I would have done without you all. I am gonna miss the CREW and all the friends I have made along the way. We have gone through a ton of BS here, which has somehow made us better people in the long run. Thanks you all and good luck with everything.

As time draws closer to the day that I have been thinking about since I first set foot on VMI's grounds. I still ask myself why I chose to come here. Some day I hope to be able to answer that question, but as of now I am without words. I would like to thank VMI for the great education, friends, and the opportunity of playing NCAA Division I Baseball. BASE CO FOR LIFE! I would like to thank my family, roommates, and teammates for all of the support and guidance.

My deepest appreciation for all those who supported me through my time here. I am and will be forever grateful.

"The aim of life is to live, and to live means to be aware, joyously, drunkenly, serenely, divinely aware." (Henry Miller)

Baseball; 7th Corporal; Academic Stars

ACS 1,2,3,4; Mounted Color Guard 1,2; Rat Challenge 1; Dean's List 1,

2001- Doug Hoffman
2007- Matt Williams

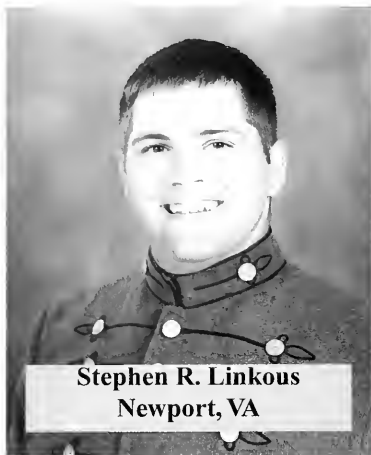


2001 - John Schott
2007 - Thane Smith, John Goode



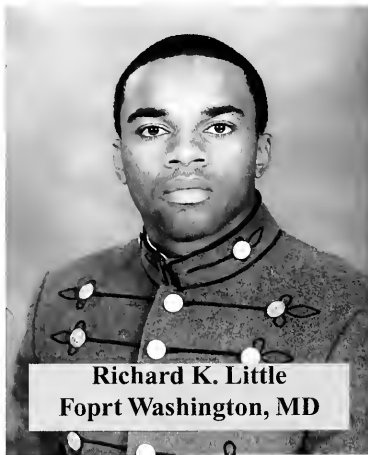
2001 - Maria M. Vasile
2007 - Catrina D. Helsel, C. Blair Zaremba





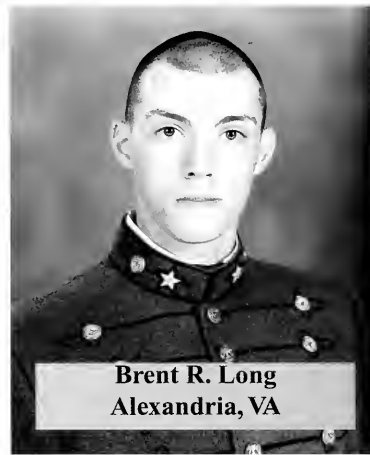
Stephen R. Linkous
Newport, VA

Army- Economics



Richard K. Little
Foprt Washington, MD

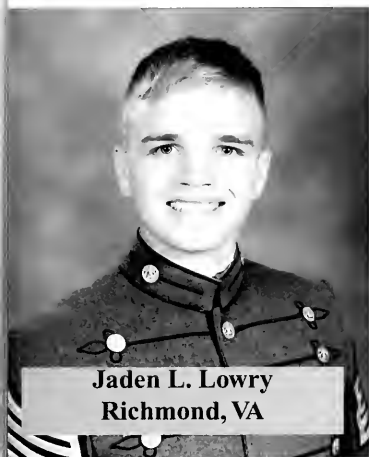
Army- Psychology



Brent R. Long
Alexandria, VA

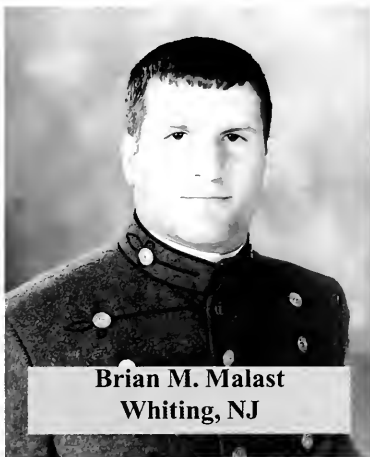
Air Force- Computer Science





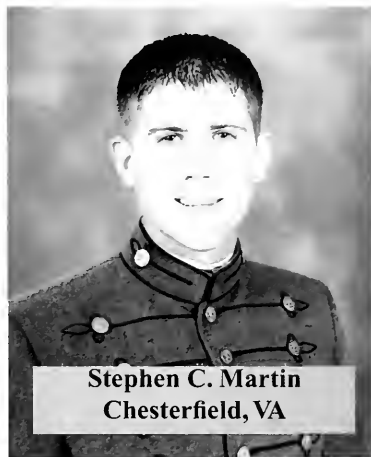
Jaden L. Lowry
Richmond, VA

Marine Corps- International Studies



Brian M. Malast
Whiting, NJ

Army- Psychology



Stephen C. Martin
Chesterfield, VA

"The Chad"

Army - Mechanical Engineering

It has been a long hard road, but the end is finally here. Mom and Dad, thank you for your constant support. Nathan, you are not just my brother, you are my best friend.

To my roomies of three years, John, Tim, and Chris, with God on your side and a VMI ring on your finger, there is nothing you can't do. Good luck in everything you do in life. You are the best friends I could ask for and I know we will always stay close.

My years spent here have been some of the best. VMI has changed me for the better and I've met many of my good friends here. Thanks for the good times.

It is finished. (Help Received: John 19:30; BOO! Rod and Christian)

Tae Kwon Do Club 1, 2; Dean's List 1, 2, 3;
Training and Investigation Committee I

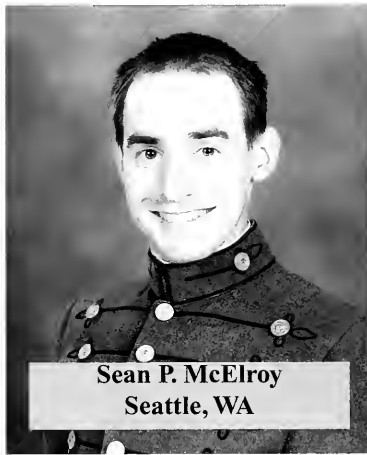


2001 - Jamie Dillon
2007 - C.J. Williamson



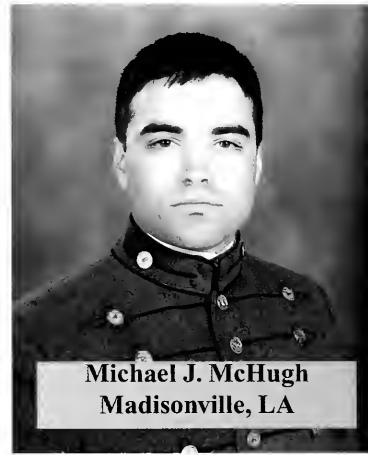
Duncan S. McCellan
Meherrin, VA

Army- Mechanical Engineering



Sean P. McElroy
Seattle, WA

*"Leroy, American Bad Ass, Bastard Phuck"
Army - Economics*



Michael J. McHugh
Madisonville, LA

Marine Corps- Civil Engineering

Well its about F***** time that I'm done with this place. I've been in college for about 5 years, counting junior college, and I'm barely graduating this time. Which probably means that I'm going to end up working at a Jiffy Lube or selling oranges on the freeway on-ramp. I would like to thank everyone that helped me through this place. Like honestly, if it wasn't for you people, I would have never made it. I wanna give a mad shout out to all my dip buddies. 2-Tone you are a bad ass, kick aSS in soccer, don't stop dipping. Drink moonshine, it's fun. Vinyard, kick aSS in soccer, don't stop dipping. Drink moonshine, its fun. Steve-O, kick aSS in wrestling, don't stop dipping. Drink moonshine, its fun. Mr. Lloyd, kick aSS in soccer, start dipping. Start drinking moonshine, its fun. On a personal note, I think I had the most fun doing army pt in the morning, especially when it was wicked cold out, it was awesome. My dykes while I was here, weren't what you call "cool" or "clean" or "fun people to hang out with" or "not huge nerds." They made my rat year suck. Morgan, you are mad tight. Don't ever forget Bizmark LeBrim. Bodie, you crazy bastard. Jon D, I mean quickdraw, you didn't start the fighting cock trend. Bristol rocks. Ross, I lift more weights than you. By the way, creoline makes your ding dong small. Remember one thing for real while we are on our professional careers, and never forget "USC NATIONAL CHAMPIONS." I like dip, booze and fat women.

Cross Country 4.3, Track 4

*2007 - Tony Williams, aka 2 Tone, aka
dip friend, aka cheech*



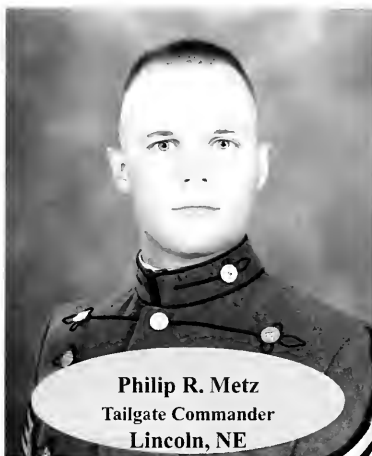
116 First Class





Michael P. McLaughlin
Roswell, GA

Navy- Economics



Philip R. Metz
Tailgate Commander
Lincoln, NE

*"Captain Metz, Schmetz-Gay, Tail-gate Commander, Fat Boy"
Marine Corps - Civil Engineering*



Matthew T. Mikula
Midlothian, VA

*"Michueless, Clueless, Matty,"
Air Force - English*

I'm going to try to keep this short and sweet. I would just like to thank everyone who helped me through these four years. First, to my parents. I can't count the times where your phone calls and advice helped me through those bad times I thought would never end. To Kevin, Oz, Brad "Haydown", Boone, Justin Hairstan, Hippy, John Casper and others. You guys have been the best friends I could ever ask for over these past 4 years. I want to say thank you to all the Bravo First Class Privates. Thanks for always keeping me on my toes and smile on my face. Finally, to my rats. You're the best any dyke could ask for and believe me, you guys will do great. To everyone reading this: Take it easy...I'm out!

Dean's List, Trident Society President, Phi Eta Sigma, Phi Kappa Phi, Omicron Delta Epsilon, Bravo Company Commander.

We are going into a tailgate against a tough and determined administration. I can't promise you that I will bring you back to barracks sober, but this I swear, before you and almighty God, that when we go to tailgate, I will be the first to set foot on the parade ground, and I will be the last to step off, and I will leave no one behind. Drunk or sober, we will all come back together, so help me God.
Where is the Tailgate???
I hate Calculus!
Go Huskers!
Thanks for all the help Riester, Page, Doc, Lester, and Mullen.
Mom and Dad, I could have never made it without you. Thanks for all of your love and support."
"Wendy, Amy, and Stephanie, thanks for all the letters and support."
"Thanks for all the fun furloughs Dodd, Hags, Allen, Johnson-boy, Dick, Knight-rider, Baatz, Wojko, Larry, Brandon, Wyatt, Todd, Wacker, Nick, and Kevin."
"Laurie, you will be forever missed."
"Help Received- Miller AD"

Dean's List 4; Cadre Corporal 3; Cadre Plt. Sergeant 2; Plt. Lieutenant 1; New Cadet Military Training Instructor 2.3; Bomb Staff 4

At first glance, one would assume this guy meets all the stereotypes of a first class private. Since breakout Matt has sported a barely legal haircut that always maintains a just-got-out-of-bed look while his shoeshine has consisted of rubbing his low quarters thoroughly on the back of his trousers. He still has no clue how to do a military tuck, and I can still remember several instances as an upperclassman where I tucked in his shirt for him. Let's also not forget that he is an artsy-fartsy English major. But despite his wonderfully poorly kept appearance (highly celebrated among true virgin privates), Matt has valued what VMI really has to offer beyond shiny shoes. Academically, he has appeared on the Dean's List consistently throughout his upper class years. More importantly, he has proven to be respected among his peers as Alpha Company OGA Representative—a leadership position that is not gained through campaigning, but by being chosen by his own brother rats. Normally, I joke with Matt and tell him that his reputation was gained through a number of exploits and escapades of semi-legendary proportions which he will perhaps never live down among his BR's (but will go unmentioned). Truthfully however, people will leave VMI and when they remember Matt they will think of an amiable private with his hat cocked back, a shrug on his shoulders, and someone who is just looking to go with the flow. We have always wondered what it must be like to just "flow" in Mikula-Land, but we have come to the general conclusion that it must be a great place. I will always value my friendship with him, and be thankful that when they called out "MIKULA, MT!" that awful morning of matriculation day on the parade ground, that he was standing right next to me. Well Matt, we can stop counting down the days I guess; it looks like we made it.
Sigma Tau Delta 2.1; NCAA Swimming 4; NCAA Football 2; OGA Alpha Rep. 1; Dean's List Student 4.3.2.1; Pre-Law Society 4.3.2.1; Academic Mentor 1, Private 4.3.2.1

2001 - Scott Lowe, Carl Haas
2007 - Travis Pantaleo, Dan Strasser

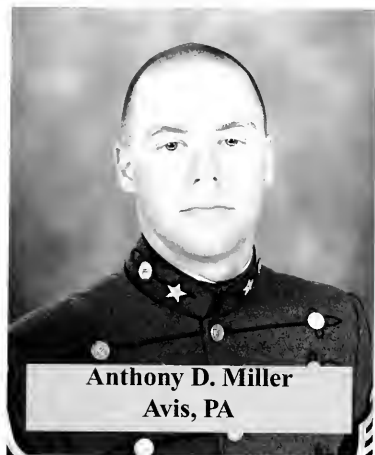


2001 - Dan Schindler
2007 - Brian Renaghan



2001 - Jarrett Blevins
200 - Demetrius "D-Mo" Harrison



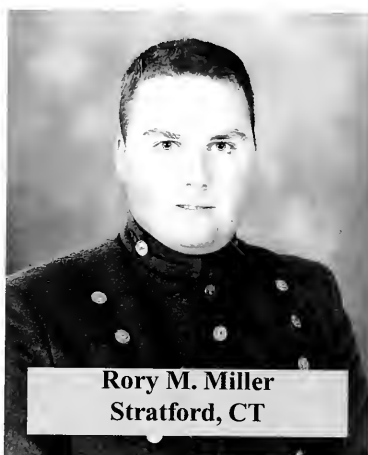


Anthony D. Miller
Avis, PA

"Academic life raft"
Air Force - Civil Engineering

First and foremost, I'd like to thank my parents, family, roommates and friends for everything they have helped me through the last four years. It hasn't been easy, but those things that are most difficult are the most rewarding. Now on to the specifics. Mom and dad, thanks for always encouraging me no matter what I wanted to do, and for forking out 100k to allow me to live in such luxurious accommodations. Next I would like to say thanks to Dave, Josh, and Jake. Senior year wouldn't have been the same without all the messed up experiences. Good luck in all your endeavors in the future. Dave, don't drink yourself out of law school! And to the best rat ever, no matter how difficult things turn out, never give up Peter. I would like my dyke line to carry on while I'm gone and since you are the only one left, don't let me down. As for the rest of the rats in 121, everyday has amazed me more and more. Mike, I never met anyone from Tennessee before, but after this year I think I know every thing there is to know about Tennessee, as well as every song and artist that mentions Tennessee. Maury, keep up the sarcasm, you need a sense of humor to survive VMI. And last but not least, I will never forget those cold winter nights sleeping out on the stoop. Thanks Nick. Stick with Civil Engineering, it is tough but you will be thankful that you did in the end. And to my fellow CE majors, I wish you the best in your professional careers. Oh, and Rob, give me a call when you need a job. Lastly, to VMI, if I have learned one thing over the past four years, it has been how not to be a good leader. Fortunately, thanks to the downfalls of most of the institute officials, I take with me a better understanding of how to positively lead and motivate any size and type of group.

Rank 1; Rat Challenge 2, 3; Heisman Trophy Winner 2; Dean's List 1, 2, 3, 4; Honorary Promag Club Member 1; AA: 1, 2

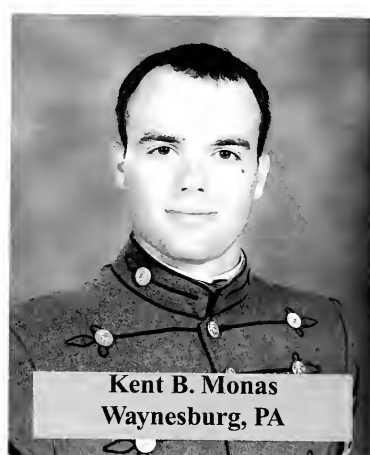


Rory M. Miller
Stratford, CT

"Red Kid, Big Red"
Air Force - Mechanical Engineering

When I first got here, everybody told me I was never going to make it... I was going to fail out of school, break, and go home. Well, they forgot... Sh*t floats, so I was at least passing rat swimming. And as for breaking, even the "Naked Guy" couldn't run me out after SRC every day. I didn't always say the right things but, I can honestly say that I am going to miss times at VMI. Living here is like living in a giant frat house, except with the fun all sacked out of it. I have made some of my best friends here, and had some of my best times here. I will definitely miss the after midnight rack talk with the roommates about things normal college students would never dream of, nor say out loud, the Second Class no shave for a number 6 permit, reacquiring cell phones, and the nightly ball ups of our next door neighbor, all in good fun Mike. But VMI is definitely about friends becoming like family, and I would say that all you guys, A.J. Kent, Vinny, and even old man Blue (Tim) have definitely been a part of what has gotten me through it all sane. Thank you for everything, and good luck in the Army, in engineering with me, and in geriatrics, respectively.

Private 1,2,3,4; Rat Challenge 1,2,3; Ranger Company 1; Rugby 2; Deans List 1,4; Fight Club 3,4



Kent B. Monas
Waynesburg, PA

Army - Mechanical Engineering

I wouldn't call my time here at the mother 'T' "enjoyable," but I have learned a lot, and for that I'm grateful. I have jumped out of airplanes, ridden camels through the Sahara Desert, gotten in a street fight in Casablanca, and sampled all the hot spring break spots in Florida. I think that Sparta is becoming Athens with all this politically correct crap and I feel it will be our downfall some day. Our nation as a whole is becoming too soft. For the sake of posterity, and by the request of my roommates, I am going to include a few of my quotes that have gotten me through these trying times at the "T".

"B*tch be cool!" Samuel L. Jackson, Pulp Fiction - A good one to use in almost any situation where someone is pissing you off.

"A man has got to know his limitations." Clint Eastwood, Dirty Harry - A good judgmental statement to throw at someone when they have had too much to drink.

"Forget about it." Al Pacino, Donnie Brasco - This is universal can be used anytime and at any point in a conversation.

"I am just getting warmed up." Al Pacino, Scent of a Woman - good line to drop when someone is beating you at something or trying to cut you off.

So to my rats feel free to use these at your discretion. I would also like to give a shout out to a fallen comrade and my rat roommate Steve Kaufman A.K.A "Biggie" who was taken from us by two A-1's. You were and are missed but it probably kept me out of a lot of trouble not having you around.

Rank; 3 Platoon SGT Charlie Co, 2 Plt Lt. Charlie Co.; Rat Challenge Repelling Cliff Cadre 2,1; Boxing Team 3,1; Ranger Co. 4, 2

2001 - Megan Smith
2007 - Peter Kirkendall

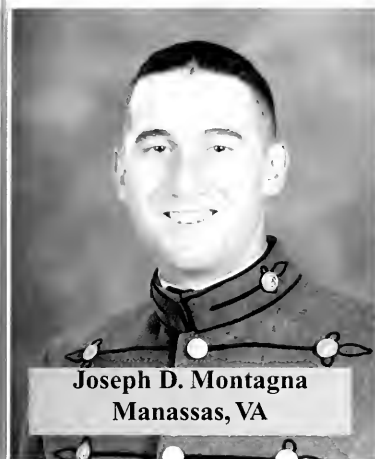


2001 - Steve Kolenich, Drew Carbone,
Dave Jones
2007 - Will Doyle, Stefan Dietrich



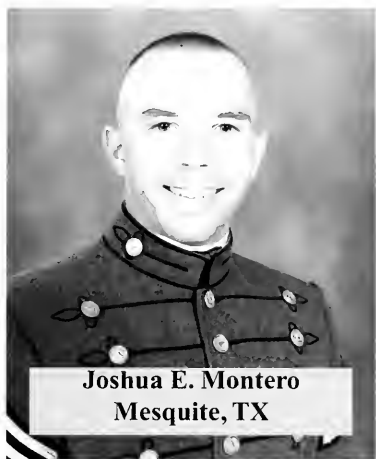
2001 - Adam Love, Brandon Bowman
2007 - John Terminato





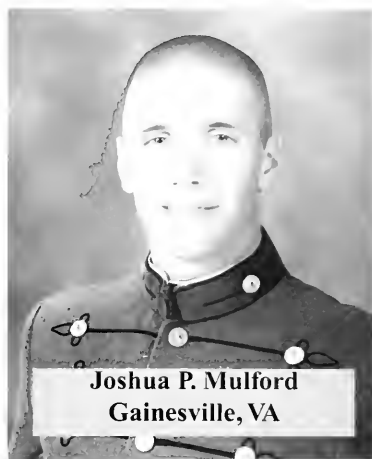
Joseph D. Montagna
Manassas, VA

Marine Corps - History



Joshua E. Montero
Mesquite, TX

Marine Corps - History



Joshua P. Mulford
Gainesville, VA

Army - Economics and Business

I'm frequently asked if my experience at VMI was worth it. Inevitably I'm forced to think about the insufferable months my Brother Rats and I went through in our routine. Then my thoughts change to our years as thirds, when our lack of weeks or transportation kept us here, tortured by the idea of the freedom we could have at another school. Memories of Ring Figure pass through my head as well, and I remember the energy that surged through us as we wore our rings for the first time and as we looked around we knew with pride who we were. As our first class year has progressed the light at the end of the tunnel has become clearer, just as many of us are planning our next step in life after this chapter draws to an end. After all these thoughts I realize one thing that remains consistent through all of them was my Brother Rats. And in a way that makes me proud to know all these people whom I experienced VMI with, I have to say, yes, it was worth it.

To all my roommates over the years, thanks for putting up with me. I honestly couldn't have made it without the great times we had together. To my Rats, you'll make fine cadets, just keep your head up and you'll all do well for yourselves in the future. To Matt, Andy, and Eric, you have been the greatest friends I could have ever asked for. Thanks for helping me find my car after Ring Figure. To my fellow Bulldogs, I can't wait to see you in the fleet; it will be a great honor to serve with such men as yourselves. Ray, you're my brother. To all those I haven't mentioned by name, it was laughs we shared and your shoulders I leant on that kept me going. And to my family, you have been the biggest influence in my life. I live everyday not to let you down, but to make you proud. Semper Fidelis.

Lacrosse 4; A. Co 4th CPL 3; Rugby 3, Ice Hockey 3.2; A Co. MstSgt 2; Bulldog 2, A Co. Guideon 1; The Mirage Dancing Team 1, Semper Fi Society Land Nav Instructor 1; Corps Mess Hall Rep 1

Lord, thank you for all you've blessed me with. Though it seems I mainly rely on you when I'm at my weakest, you have never forsaken me, and it is only through your gracious mercy that I have made it this far. Thank You. Joshua 1:9

Dad, thank you for all that you've done for me. If I grow up to be half the man you are, I will have considered myself successful. Mom and Chuck, thank you for all the support you have given me. Mom the upbringing you gave me has made me the man I am today. Jennifer and Jessica, you mean the world to me. To the rest of my friends and family you are the reason I will always call Texas home.

To those I leave behind and future cadets, break the rules a little and have some fun, you'll have good stories later on. Remember that at the end of the day what matters is how you've treated people.

My fellow Marines, I admire you all and would proudly fight next to you. To concourse frat row and my bros up top, you are the VMI spirit. The laughter and friendships we have are worth the hells of VMI. You all are the reason I didn't leave a long time ago.

My roommates, Grady, Brock, and Michael, we're one of the few rooms that have been together since we were rats. From straining to flaming to ring taping to graduating we've been by each other's side. From the fights, bars, fights in bars (and streets), funerals, and confinement, to DVDs, weekends, tailgates, and long talks we've always been together. With the hotdog in the rifle, Napoleon name tag, fire extinguisher, and robes taken while in the shower we kept our sense of humor. I never knew what it was like to have a brother; but now I have three.

It's been a good fight VMI, but...I've won! I love you for everything you have taught me and everything you have instilled in me; honor, pride, duty, selfless service and brotherhood. I walk from one fight into another knowing God and my family has and will always be there for me. Thank you Dad, for everything. Gran and Granddad thanks for your love. Will, Brian, Scott, Doug, and Luke your mentorship and friendship allowed me to endure the rest of my days here as a cadet. CPT DeVarona, you are the best example of a leader I have seen in my four years at the Institute, thanks for everything! Justin you will make a fine infantry officer. I will fight next to you any day! Dave and Tony thanks for all the good times, poison ivy and all nighters- you both have bright futures in store for you! Tommy, you have a huge heart, and you showed me what true determination means. Maury, chin up, head down, your sense of humor and honesty will bring you much success here and in life, I am proud of the man you have become. Sohira you are my strength, thanks for your friendship and love. I go off to fight the good fight. I go with my head held high to face unknown enemies and battles. I go with the memory of four great years of hardship, sweat, and great friends.

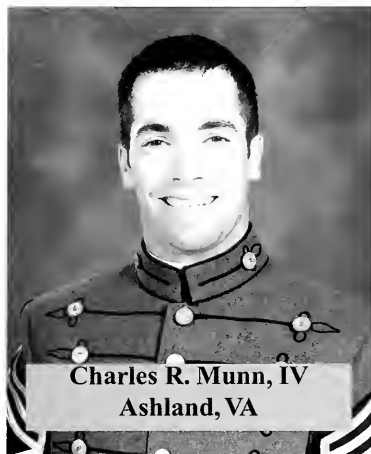
Dean's List 1, 2, 3; CIG 1, 2, 3; Ranger Challenge 1, 2; Ranger Company 1; Rat Challenge 1: First Class Private 1

2001 - Chris Dabaldo, Cannon Moss, Brandon Farris, Kent Armentrout

2007 - Tyler Russell, Kyle Snider, Correy Bafford, Wayne Huggins, Pat Johnsons

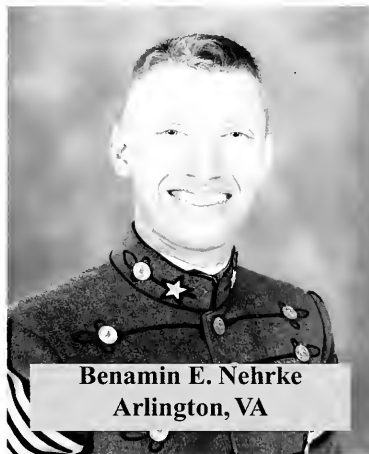
2001 - Will Charlet
2007 - Maury Denton





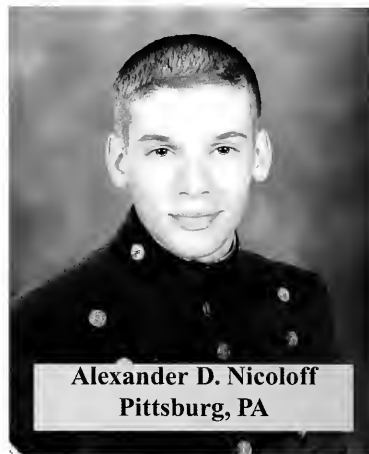
Charles R. Munn, IV
Ashland, VA

Army - International Studies



Benjamin E. Nehrke
Arlington, VA

Navy - International Studies



Alexander D. Nicoloff
Pittsburg, PA

*"Smirnoff, Nick. Nicky. Russian"
Air Force - Business and Economics*

VMI is all about losing a little, and learning what you gain from that. Sometimes you lose a lot, and sometimes you learn more than you thought. The years here have been filled with bitterness, frustration, and toil. However, as the end is now in sight, it is my hope that all of these thoughts of suffering now will be replaced only with the fond memories of the life and times I spent with my BRs here. Because, with all of the hardship that everyone goes through here, it has been the bonds we have made that have seen us through, the friendships we have forged that will bind us as we leave this place, and throughout life. Nate, Justin, Drew, Matt, Dan, Brad, Chuck: you guys have been an anchor. I have learned so much here, I would need pages of this yearbook to sum it up. What I can say, is that there will always be some good everywhere you look. No matter where you find it, in a person or a group, hold on to it, and fight for it. VMI is only the first step on what I hope will be a long journey, filled with the same adventure, excitement, and companionship I have found during my time here.

Doolittle Standard: "If the United States is to survive, long-standing concepts of 'fair play' must be reconsidered. We must...learn to subvert, sabotage and destroy our enemies by more clever, more sophisticated and more effective methods than those used to attack us."

The time has finally come for me to write this, and to be honest I didn't think that this day would actually get here. First and foremost, I would like to thank my parents. I truly don't believe that I would have been able to get through these last four years without you. I know it was a taxing four years for the both of you, due to my constant complaining and ups and downs. But thank you for all the support, guidance, and love that you have given me while I have been at this school. Ryan and Matt, I don't think I could have asked for two better roommates. Ryan, we have gone through this place together and have endured everything that VMI threw at us. You have become a great friend and I will miss all the times that we have spent together at VMI. Matt, I mean I don't know anyone that is a bigger dork than you are!! When I first met you on that faithful day in August of 2000, I knew that you and I would be together at the end of this journey and indeed we are. You two have become like family to me. I will definitely miss seeing and living with the both of you day in and day out. Good luck in the future, and remember to keep in touch. To the rest of my friends-Roscoe, Chen, Coleman, Miller, Gochenour, and Lawrence, I will definitely miss all the great times I have had with you. I wish you all good luck with your future endeavors and keep in touch. To the Rats of 115- Rat Year is the easiest year at VMI, but remember what we have taught you and you will be just fine.

Cpl 4; Sgt 2; S-3 Lt 1; Cadet Newspaper 4,3,2,1 (Editor-in-Chief 2,1); Morocco 4,1; Ranger Co 4,2; Dean's List 4,3,2,1; Rat Challenge SGT 2, LT 1; Bomb 1; Model Arab League 3,1; Palms Challenge CIC 2,1; #1 Club 4,3,2,1

Marathon Club: 1,2,3; Rank: 1,2,3; Dean's List: 1,2,3,4

Reg. Color Sgt. 2; 3rd Plt. Lt 1; Member Cadet Investment Group3; Executive Officer Cadet Investment Group 2; President of Cadet Investment Group 1; Ice Hockey 3; Powerlifting 2; 4,3,2,1-Deans List 4,3,2,1; Academic Stars 3,2; Phi Eta Sigma, Phi Kappa Phi

2001 - Fred Haire
2007 - Ben Rosser

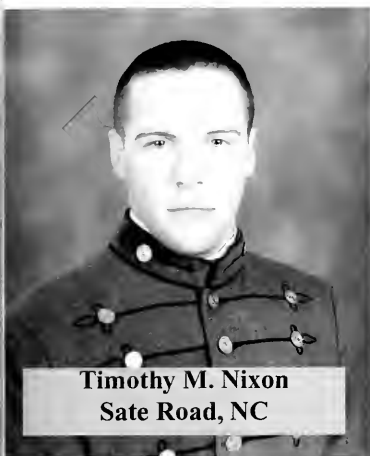


2001 - Justin Walskey
2007 - Peter Duvigneaud, Nick Boykin



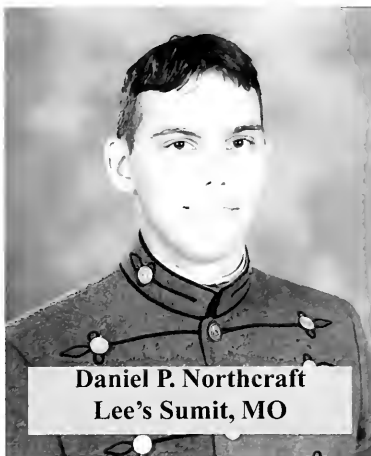
2001-Eric J. Gannon
2007-Steven M. Stone





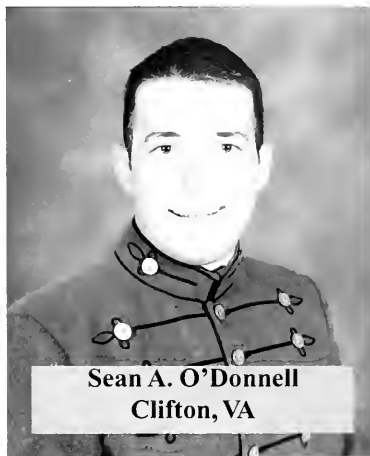
Timothy M. Nixon
Sate Road, NC

Marine Corps- Marine Corps



Daniel P. Northcraft
Lee's Summit, MO

Army - Mechanical Engineering



Sean A. O'Donnell
Clifton, VA

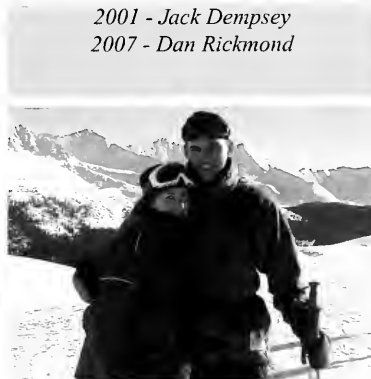
"OD"

Air Force - History

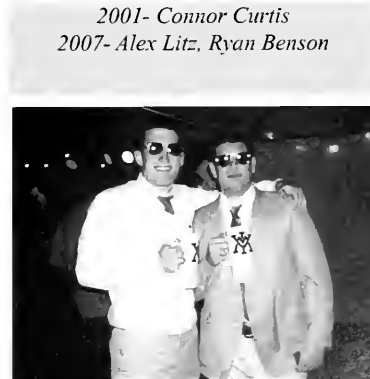
Before Sean matriculated into the Rat mass of '01-'03 he had put '20VM104' plates on his car. His brother Bill ('97) felt obliged to call Sean's cadre during hell week and inform them of this. Sean quickly found out how Hell Week got its name. By the end of Rat year Sean had joined a club...the #1 club, and learned magic too. He turned an '04 into an '05. The moral of the story he learned to fall? Sean's a lover not a fighter. Third class year Sean became my roommate. 303 became our home. It was the year the Lord of the Rings reigned in our room...we weren't fans of the movie or him. The Gestapo came and we said bye to one of the best. We returned to the 'I' for 2nd class year and Austin joined in. When we returned OD bragged how he became an SP. He excelled in Texas and with a focus on grades he had his sights set on the sky. The grades he did make and the ass he did kiss, but it wasn't in the cards for OD, at least not just yet. OD played rugby, he was one of the best until his head met a knee. He went to the emergency room and returned home with a case of amnesia. He was already having trouble keeping track of all the names in his little black book, he still doesn't know who we made up and who he can't remember. It's now 1st class year, how did it get here so fast. He's earned ac. days and become a member of the OGA. He's decided to take some ownership in this place and try to give back. He's still a huge flirt but don't tell his girl at W&L. From bathroom antics and sleeping in his jeep at Radford, dancing with a bride-to-be in Annap., to prying a new hood ornament off his car in Savannah, Sean is always the life of the party. He's sure to give you shit when your down but that's just OD. Sean has been the best of friends, much more like a brother. I left you earlier with a "not yet". There's too much ass out there to kiss to stop trying. You'll get there. See you in the air. GLG



2001 - Jack Dempsey
2007 - Dan Rickmond



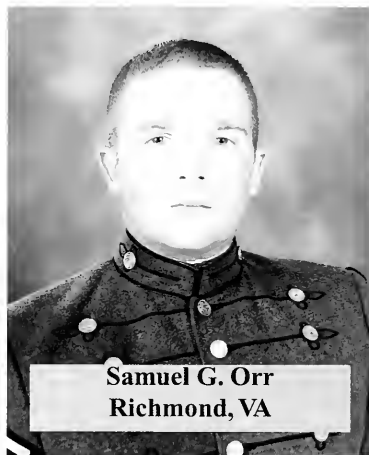
2001- Connor Curtis
2007- Alex Litz, Ryan Benson





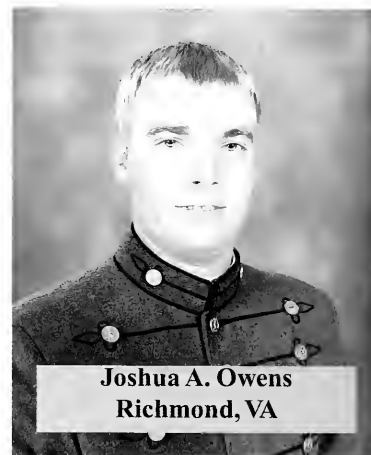
Elizabeth P. Olson
Nashville, TN

Navy - English



Samuel G. Orr
Richmond, VA

"Orgy, Fat Rat"



Joshua A. Owens
Richmond, VA

Army- Economics

Marine Corps - International Studies

The seasons have changed 16 times since I began my sentence here. Each one brought with it terrors and laughs-reasons I should go and reasons I should stay. When will I say, "ENOUGH?" Right now is when I take my leave, but along with my exit I also take so many memories. Thank you mom and dad for supporting me through words, packages, visits and you have been great parents who raised me to put faith in God and do what is right. My partners-in-crime are too crazy for words, those little she-devils. Mariah, you began as the girliest and helped us appreciate how we look and you are so incredibly brave I've seen how caring you are the times we went home and drank mudslides and cuddled on the couch. You love your family and I know you will be an amazing mother. Enca, you are so strong, sometimes a little overboard but so very faithful. You better either become a mercenary or President and baby-sit my kids. Sarah, you turned into a great soccer player, with my help of course. One of the last thoughts when I die will be running to you while sobbing on the last day of Hell Week and how I felt. Girls, sorry about our fights, and I think we will need to clutch onto each other forever. Brent, too many fights, but you are so real to me and thanks for keeping faith in me. My lacrosse boys, you kept me going and are one of a kind, good luck to you all. My rats, don't forget to laugh. Blake, you are an Angel and I promise your one wish will come true, as long as you keep flashing those dimples!

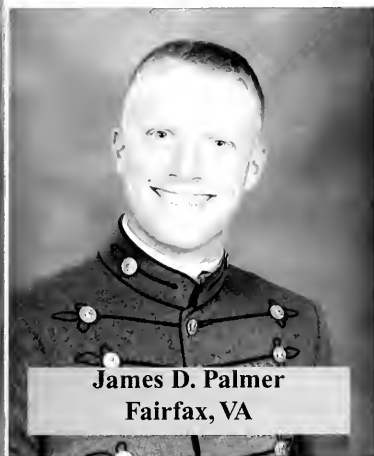
"Here at last, we shall be free." - Milton

Four years ago I walked through Jackson Arch with various expectations of VMI. Although I was forced to abandon several of these ideals at certain points throughout my cadetship I can honestly say that I do not regret these last four years. Within these four walls that we have called home since Aug. 2000, I have met and befriended some of the finest men I will likely ever know in my life. It is because of these friends that I have made, combined with the lessons of perseverance, discipline, and honor that VMI has allowed me to learn, that I cannot look upon these last four years with regret. To my family, I could not have endured this trial without you. I don't know if I will ever be able to express my full gratitude. I thank God for you each day. To my roommates, it has definitely been an interesting ride. Michael - My self-esteem won't be the same without you. You have taught me a lot about myself. Josh - I respect you for the man that you have become and the man that you aspire to be. Good luck and Semper par. Brock - I don't really know what to say except for thank you. On matriculation day I saw that we were both in Echo...it was then that I knew we would make it. Before I came to VMI I did not have a brother. I'm leaving with three...thanks guys. To Ryan - You have been the man this year and I'm proud to call you my rat, but more importantly now, my friend. To the rest of the fellas: Johnny, Jesse, the Concourse crew, and the Tiger Echo men of '04 and '05 - Keep the faith. Good Luck and I'll see you on the flip side. "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." - Philippians 4:13

Tiger Echo 4,3,2,1; Cpl. 3, Pvt. 2, 1st Plt. Lt. 1; Echo Co. Softball 4,3,2,1; Strength and Fitness Club 3,2; RDC 1; Alcohol #1 3; Worst study abroad ever in Hungary 2; Concourse (Frat Row) 1

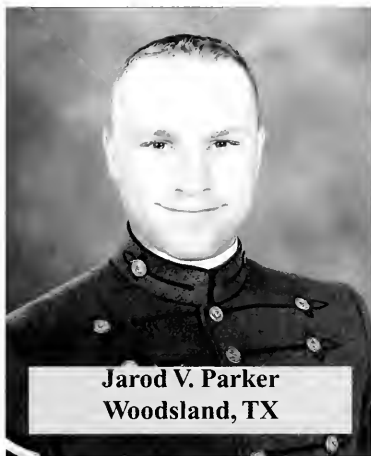
2001 - Drew Dickinson
2007 - Ryan Steptoe





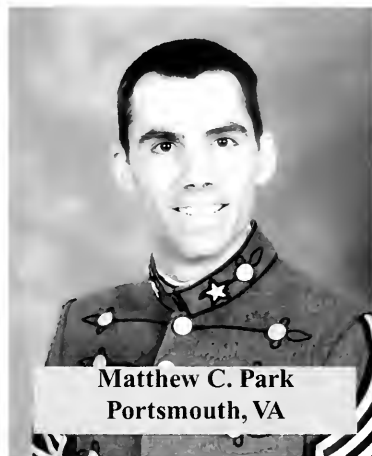
James D. Palmer
Fairfax, VA

"Jimmy, Kermit, Tri-P"
Army - History



Jarod V. Parker
Woodsland, TX

Army - History



Matthew C. Park
Portsmouth, VA

Army - Biology

Four years ago I embarked on a journey that I knew would change my life. Over the course of a lifetime, four years isn't much- but I know that the time spent here were some of the most critical and amazing that I will experience. First, I want to thank God for getting me through this. There were many times I was at a precipice, but He managed to save me every time. For all those who sent up prayers regarding my success here- thank you.

To Mom, Ken, Dad, and MJ- it was your unconditional devotion to my success that brought me to this day, and made me the man I am. Thank you for your sacrifice, and dedication. To Jeff, my brother and best friend, thank you for all you have done for me through these years.

To my dykes- you did it. You brought up a kid that asked a million questions a day that is now an alumnus. I hope that I made you proud in how I spent my sentence here, and how I continued your legacy through my rats.

To Dutch, Mr. President, Wu-Tang, Justin, and Tyler- I have some of the fondest memories here with you all, and the stories that we share can't fit in this. You all know them anyways. To Boss Casper, Slav, Benji, and the rest of OGA- our little fraternity within a fraternity brought together an incredible group of guys, all of which I count as my close associates. To the Boys of Summer back home- this is the next step. To the Goonies, thanks for the many weekends you spent having a group of rowdy VMI boys at 1032F. Your friendship is something I will always treasure.

To my Pea, I don't know where the roads will lead us. Despite the ups and downs, remember that I love you. 1 Corinthians 13:4-13. To the rats of 142- this place is a game, so make the most of it. Soon enough it will be over, and you won't know where the time went. Good luck.

National Guard SMP 3,2,1; Strength and Fitness 2; OPFOR 3,2; Cadet Newspaper 2,1; Model Arab League 1; College Republicans 2; QMD Staff 3,2; OGA 1

First thing I would like to say is that, though I was born in California, I am not a Californian! I am a Texan through and through, so "Remember the Alamo" and let's move on. Next, I would like to thank all those who helped and supported me throughout my endeavors at VMI, particularly my Parents. Ya'll have been my greatest support, I couldn't have done it without you, and so I would like to say thanks one more time. To all the friends I have made here, though I might see some of ya'll in the Army, I going to miss ya'll. Good luck and Godspeed. Well since it is usually best end on a quote, I will go ahead and end on two: "To a real warrior, power perceived may be power achieved." And "Don't mess with Texas!"

Help Received: None

Powerlifting Team, Texas Society, Ranger Company, NBLF soldier 02-04

I have often asked myself questions about VMI that I thought I would never be able to answer. Among them is, "Why did I come here?" But as I grow closer to the end of my time here, I realize how important it has been for me to be a cadet. VMI has given me the opportunity to earn something much more meaningful to me than just a degree. It has given me a perspective on life for which I will be forever thankful. I am fortunate to have spent time with some of the best people I will ever have the privilege of calling friends - you guys know who you are. It is largely their strength during our shared experience that has earned me to this point. My family (that includes all my family) has given me its unwavering support and guidance, providing me a foundation I could not have done without.

I have already answered a few of my questions: no one has enough strength to live without close friends and family, the most fun at VMI can be found only in Scotland, and, even after all the nonsense at VMI, I am glad I came here. I imagine each time that I consider my experience here in the future, I will be able to answer more of my questions.

Rats, I hope Steve and I have helped each of you to become more successful and better people. It has been an honor watching you grow this past year.

Before coming here, one of my favorite quotes was by Ernest Hemingway - "But man is not made for defeat. A man can be destroyed, but not defeated." Santiago proved that on his journey. Four years later, at the end of my journey at VMI, I feel I have a more intimate understanding of what that quote means than I ever will - and how hard it can be to follow. But I also feel as if I am better prepared now than ever to try to continue to live up to that ethos. I am sure every one of my friends from here will continue to do so.

2001 - Tenille Chisholm
2007 - Dustin Dodge, Greg Barnekoff

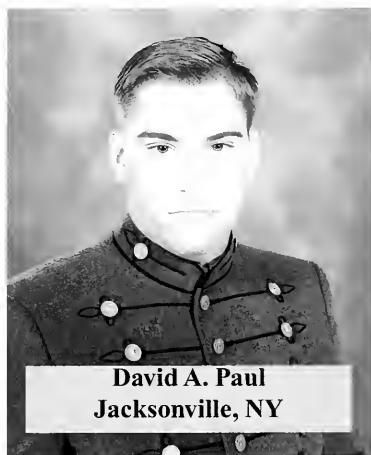


2001 - David Gray
2007 - Anthony Menas; Rhys Williams



2001 - Brian Wright, Ben Stanley
2007 - M. French, R. McLean, P. Obuon, P. Saunders





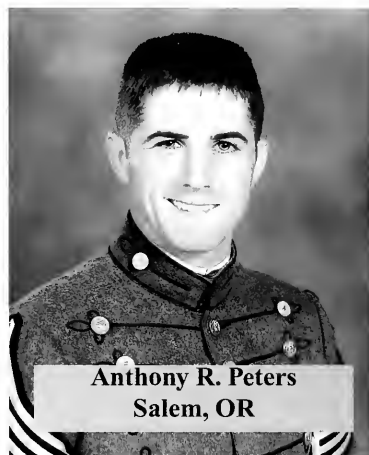
David A. Paul
Jacksonville, NY

Army- Chemistry



Jonathan C. Pax
Lexington, VA

Marine Corps- Psychology



Anthony R. Peters
Salem, OR

Navy- Civil Engineering

Well. It was real, and it was fun but it wasn't real fun. Ha ha hmmm. I bet everyone else in this book used my quote. Oh well, I don't care because by the time I read this I will be out of here. I think that every one can agree that the past four years were no joke. But we know that it will all be worth it in the end. I will never forget the Denny's stories, eating a doughnut at breakfast or going out to that inspection rat year without doing anything because I thought that the cadre were kidding, and Burns's bus speech on the way back from the Florida lacrosse trip. Hanging up on the general two times when he called me at my work study job. And of course, throwing paper airplanes out the window over FTX. Yep those were the days. I've grown up a lot since then I'd like to thank everyone who got me here including those who are no longer here, my family, the chemistry department and my girlfriend. I could not have done it without you.

Room One-One-Three, formerly known as *The 265 Band* released their debut album, "Evil Temptress You Have No Power Over Me!" in August of 2003. Although they made no sales to anyone other than their rats, who were forced to buy several copies, they considered their 1st Class year to be an overall success. The addition of a new lead singer, John Ginder, at the beginning of the year completed the struggling duet of Justin Roberts and Anthony Peters. Since that day the three men from three different worlds have grown into what critics are calling the "freshest thing since George Strait himself." This is where the cowboys ride away.

Thanks to the fam damly, Chaplain Park, my Christian brothers of 333, and especially my dyke, Anthony Bravo. Thanks to my roommates for allowing me to be a food box and desk supply parasite. I swear I wasn't a permit worm.

1st CPL, 2nd Battalion SGM, 2nd; Battalion CO;
Wrestling, Boxing, OCF; VMI Third Class
Leadership Award

2001 - Ryan Cates

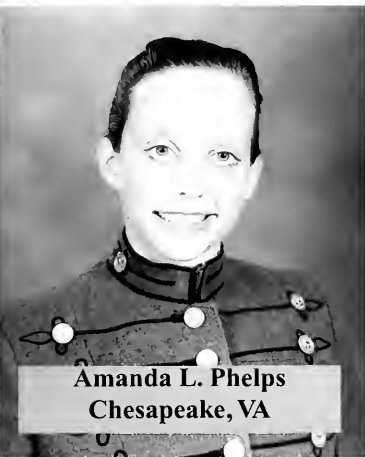
2007 - Brian McGuire, Ryan Young,
Brandon Kirtly, Anthony Harris



2001 - Anthony Bravo

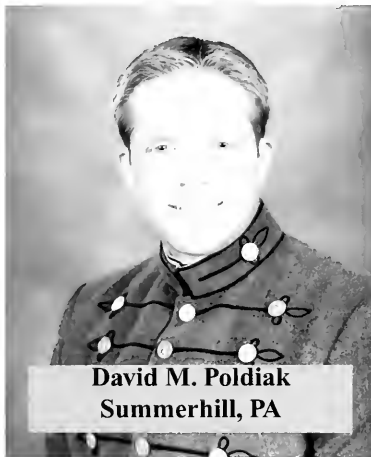
2007 - Grant Weatherford, Chris
Chang-Lo





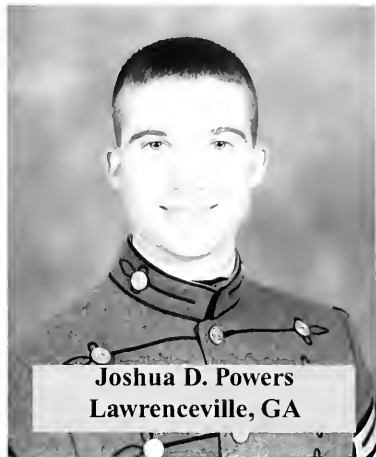
Amanda L. Phelps
Chesapeake, VA

Air Force - Psychology



David M. Poldiak
Summerhill, PA

Navy- Biology



Joshua D. Powers
Lawrenceville, GA

Army - History

It's been a long, trying cadetship for all of us, but has the race really been worth running? If only for the memories and friends, yes. PTs, confinement, homework, and of course just generally being a cadet was difficult, but we pulled one another through, even those that have gone their separate ways (How was the pizza, Dougherty??). I know that none of us could have made it alone, and I am grateful for all the times that I have been helped and all the lifelong friendships I have been given. I have learned through every grueling day the realities of the world-now it's time to face the world with no safety net. Col. Crockett, you are a saint. Mr. Brightwell, you will NEVER fool me for as long as I live. I suppose I owe you, Kent, Kielzowski, and Quash for letting me be the 6th roommate and not making me do chores. Elise, I wish you good fortune and a pleasant cadetship-you are HUGE. I appreciate everyone who ever spoke a kind word, gave encouragement, or assisted when I needed it the most- you are not forgotten, and I will always remember.

Swimming: 1; Fencing: rat, 3,2; The Cadet: 4,3; AAAA: 4,3,2,1; R.E. Lee college work committee: 2,1; Pork chop platoon: 3,2,1

I remember my first visit to VMI. My parents and I traveled through a terrible snowstorm that extended a 4-hour trip to about 7. I should have realized then to turn back; this place is like an unrelenting snowstorm. Just when you think you have it beat, more falls and you have to constantly dig yourself out from under the weight. There are times when no matter how hard you fight, the snow buries you and you just have to wait for that warm, sunny day to melt it all away. The people who surround you are those sunny days. Family, friends, BRs. Thank you mom and dad for preparing me for the rigors of this place. You could raise any successful VMI graduate. James, you're my biggest inspiration and mentor; I will forever look up to you. Thank you to the rest of my family, especially my grandparents. Grandma, thank you for all the support and letters to melt some of the snow away. Nanny and Pap, it's not fair that your time was up, but I know you have watched my development from the highest mountain. Scotty, I can always count on you for a laugh. All I need to think about is "by the orchard!" Thank you Doug and the rest of C-31 for being great examples of VMI men, Gen. and Mrs. Tait for all of your support, and all my teammates both past and present. Thank you BRs, especially Huddy for your constant lectures in sadistic philosophy and Malast for all of our late night escapades. Andy, what can I say, you've grown on me; there isn't a person anywhere with a bigger heart than yours. John, there's not one person on this earth who I'd have rather battled VMI with. To the guys on the Court, only we understand the sacrifice needed to protect our Code. It has served us all the PAINCAKE we can handle. To my rats, no matter how high the snow piles, you can dig yourselves out. When it's all over and you're ready

Football 4, 3, 2, 1; Ac. Stars 3; Bravo 4th Corporal ; Reg. S-6 Sgt. ; Private (finally wised up) 1st class year; Newman Club 3, 2; Athletic Liaison for Newman Club 1; Honor Court; Assistant Prosecutor; Honor Court President

The long gray line that we march is long and harsh. It is not a straight line, with each step we face a corner or obstacle that impedes our progress. Though many have walked it before, the line is never the same. The years have taken this path in different directions, but it has always been bedded in the same earth. The Institute is now in a period of transition, but it is not fading. There are men in every class that hold true to the spirit of VMI. Remember that no commandant or administrator can take away the values that are most important to this school - honor, brotherhood, and duty. VMI will never die because of these values. To the men of 2007: you are now my legacy. Remember the lessons you were taught, and stand up for what you believe in. Salvatore: you are a strong man and a good friend. Remember the traditions that have been passed down through our dyke line. To the men of Echo that I have trained over the years: I gained more knowledge from you than I could ever teach. You know the traditions - do not let them die. Carry out your duties with violence, intensity, and discipline. To my brother rats: you are truly my brothers. The bond that we share is worth every hardship we have been given, and every poor decision we have faced. VMI has taught me many important things, but most importantly it has taught me duty. It is now the duty of the men I have trained to carry on the traditions of the Institute. Do not quit because the line is tough, because it has been tough for many men before you. Do not become frustrated if it is unfair, because it is never fair. Walk the line with pride and honor, and leave your mark for the men to come.

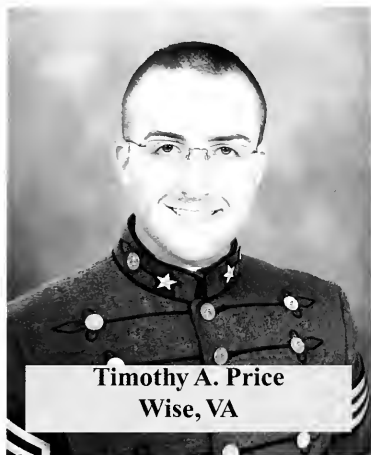
Cadre 3; RDC 1

2001 - Guy Workman, Ryan Blake,
Ethan Weber
2007 - Elise Jones, Jon Miller

2001 - Doug Bates
2007 - Ian Casher, Tommy Lloyd, Bret
Wilhite

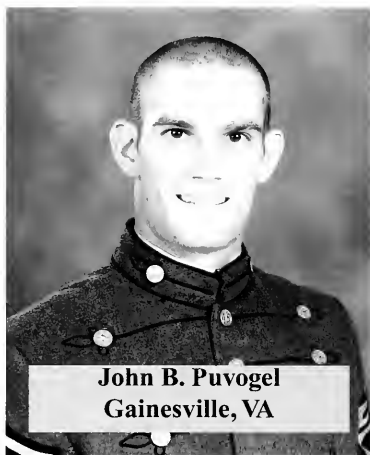
2001 - Brian Ferguson
2007 - Salvatore Sferrazza





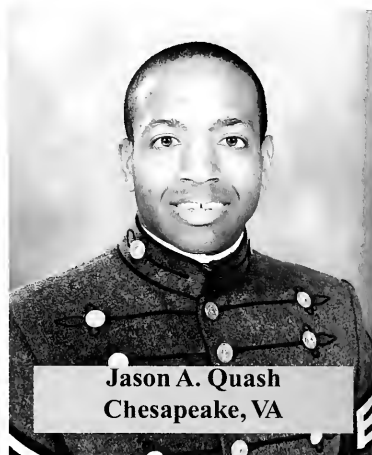
Timothy A. Price
Wise, VA

"Prissy, Wheatus, Toby, Room King"
Army - International Studies



John B. Puvogel
Gainesville, VA

Army - Electrical Engineering



Jason A. Quash
Chesapeake, VA

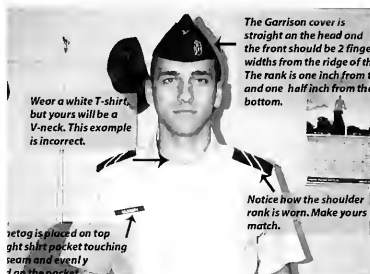
Army - Chemistry

What can you say about a redneck, snake handling, Imam from "WISSSE" Virginia? Swearing, drinking, and random humping are just a brief look into the mind of this bulbous head and power shaft. Aside from his mass drinking and random acts of alcoholism; we must pause a moment to reflect on the wildness that is Tim Price. Starting with his rat year exploits as a hairy-assed Southern Baptist preacher that could convert to Islam without the approval of a Catholic Priest; moving to the time at Panther Falls which include a demon dog "Satan," a pile of scat, and an unexpected plunge into the icy depths; and of course dealing with Czechs the way a true American does by throwing your 40 weight ring into that tard blog Slavic's face. Falling back to our wonderful home, VMI, and your ability to taunt fellow cadets; using your Croc Hunter accent to describe the BFM, and just simply beating "Gay Scott." But, yet Tim even has a higher authority to report to: at 0530hrs when the phone rings...again. Tim, God Bless you, good luck with your future and may God have mercy on your soul and anyone that comes in contact with you. Thanks, guys. I've been through some rough times here at the "F", and my BRs, led by some of my best friends, have kept me sane. You guys are the brothers I never had, especially Nate and Adam. No matter where life takes us, I'll never forget your friendships. Good luck in all your future endeavors, and may we all fulfill our dreams. Dad, I'm sorry you aren't here to see me graduate this damned place, but I can only hope that you'll look down from above and be proud. Mom, you've always been there for me, and I hope that you too are proud. Lisette, the stars are the limit of our relationship. Thanks for believing in me. I truly love you.

GC Vice President: 4, 3, 2, 1; Ranger Co.: 4; Phi Eta Sigma: 4, 3, 2, 1; Phi Alpha Theta (President): 2, 1; Bravo Co, Softball and Football: 3, 2; Window Air Assault Team: 2; Co-Captain of the VMI Drinking Team: 4, 3, 2, 1; Shaft Miner: 1; Happy Thursday Club President: 2, 1; Rat Challenge: 1; NCMT: 3, 1

First and foremost I thank my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for all the blessings that have been bestowed upon my brother rats, the Class of 2004, and VMI during these past four years. From the harshness of the Rat Line, through the trials of Third Class year, in the glorious time of Ring Figure, and through the amazing leadership of First Class year, I can truly say He never left my side... He never left our side. And so now as we all go out into the vastness of the world there are things I would like to say to those who will still be here. To my Rats and all cadets: Never stop caring for your Brother Rats and never stop caring about VMI. You are VMI. You have the blessing of being at a place with endless opportunity. However, remember that the opportunity only lies within the faith, perseverance, character, leadership, and honor displayed and lived out by the heart and personality of Keydets. We are in a time where men and women of honor, character, and faith seem few and far between. But you are given the responsibility of being that man or woman because you are here... because you are a VMI Keydet. To my Brother Rats, it has been the greatest honor and privilege to serve as your Class President. I hope and pray that I have only brought the best honor and credibility to our Class and to VMI through my service. As we depart, know that I am praying for you. And if you ever feel alone, remember there is a God beside you. He is the ultimate Ranger who first said, "Follow me." (John 1:43), and if you let Him, He will lead you through the Land Nav of Life.

2007 - Chase Perry, Mike Doughton





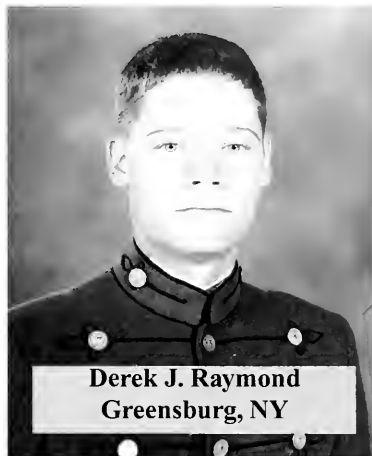
Christopher R. Rauh
Herndon, VA

Army - English



Steven A. Raveia
Fairfax, VA

"Mooch, Ravioli, Story Time Steve"
Army - History



Derek J. Raymond
Greensburg, NY

Army- Economics

*"O God of battles! Steel my soldiers' hearts;
Possess them not with fear..."*

*William Shakespeare, Henry V,
Act IV, scene i.*

Steve and I have been friends for the last 3 years. We have shared many good times together: from inside jokes about the history teacher who always wore the scarf to field trips with Camille, from trips to Radford to trips to the Bahamas, it has been great. Hell, if it wasn't for you, I would've never gotten the nickname "sober Mike!" You have helped me with problems that would have been much harder getting through without a friend like you. After 4 years in this hole, I don't know why you are selling your soul the U.S. Army, but I know you will make just as many friends in the Army as you have made here at VMI - and earn everyone's respect and admiration. Although this is not the end, it has been great knowing you the past 3 years. Go, Steve, and do great things...which I know you will

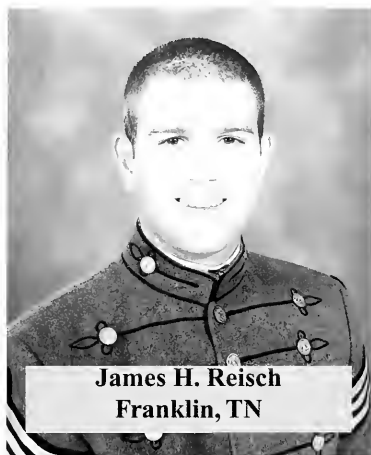
PVT-4,3,2,1; VMI Rifle Team-4,3,2,1; VMI Pipes and Drums-4,3,2,1 Canterbury Club-4,3; Timmins Gentry Music Society-3,2; Sigma Tau Delta-3,2,1(Vice President-1); Dean's List-4,3,2,1; Separated from the foul rankness of "comfort"-1

Bravo company Cpl. Plt Sgt. Plt LT. Cadet Battery 3,2,1; Cadre 2,1

2001- Sam Fishburne
2007-Scott "The Machine" Harvey

2001 - Carl Hass
2007 - Gregory Kosh





James H. Reisch
Franklin, TN

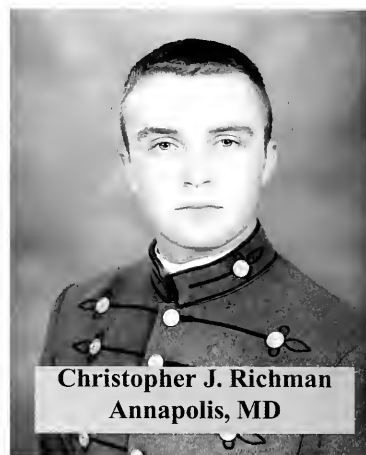
"Face #1"

Army- Psychology



Jessica J. Remick
Lancaster, NH

Air Force- International Studies



Christopher J. Richman
Annapolis, MD

"Emilio"

Marine Corps - History

We never would have thought that the Delaware Aristocracy would place such a good friend in our company for so long. Plenty of people say that VMI would be unbearable without the friends they made; there is no better illustration of this point than Face Number 1. At one point or another everyone who has lived within the walls has heard the deafening wails of the sasquatch, quite possibly the loudest man in barracks. His pure naked insanity and wild antics are what has made the triangle of terror what it is. His ability to crack jokes and create laughter is unparalleled by any other cadet. It is for these reasons that Jake will always be remembered as our finest friend and brother. He will have no problem fighting crime on the highways and byways of our country. -BCT and HLB

While I will not miss VMI upon graduation and I am excited about the next stage in all of our lives, I will truly miss the people that make up VMI and the experiences I have had here. I remember during STP looking in the mirror wondering if I would see the same person in the reflection four years later at graduation, anticipating VMI and eventually the Air Force, would mold me into a capable young second lieutenant. However, after thinking about this as a first classman, I have determined that it is the friends I have made and lost, the tears and laughter, mistakes and successes, and the work and fun that have changed me, not VMI. Most importantly, the past four years have made me appreciate my family, my soon-to-be family, and friends and the time that I am blessed to spend with them.

I came to VMI on my 19th birthday with the greatest of expectations. I leave now four years later with great memories and no regrets. It wasn't always fun but we always made the best of it. Mom, Dad and Lindsay: you have been there my whole life and carried me throughout these four years. I cannot thank you enough for sending me to college, always being at the other end of the telephone with support and encouragement, and helping me follow my dreams. I love you all so much. My roommates, John Chad and Tim: you have been my best friends here. Thanks for taking a chance with me. It has been a wonderful experience living with you three. My dyke, Pak and my granddyke, Sean: thank you both for your wisdom, support and love. Jeff and Ryan: Keep your heads up! The next three years will be hard, but you guys are ready. I couldn't have asked for better rats. Jennifer: Your love, support and devotion to me mean more than you will ever know. I can't wait to see what the future holds for us. I love you. To the Class of 2004: We made it, together. Never forget all that we have accomplished as a class. To all my professors, fellow cadets and others I may have missed: Thank you! I will never forget: sweat parties, scrounging for tobacco, Ring Figure Renaissance Man, stoop skateboarding, The Palms, tailgates, trips to the hospital, beating the Citadel in hockey, fighting to get into OCS, marching 80 miles, late night games in Roanoke sweating finals, Emilio!!!, always having someone to hang out with on boring nights, and lastly, graduation. Good luck to all those who still remain here, congratulations and good luck to all those graduating, and goodbye to VMI "Dream as if you'll live forever, live as if you'll die today." -James Dean

Rugby: 1,2; Triangle of Terror: 1,2,3,4; NCMT: 3; Rank: 1,2,3

Dean's List 4, 2; Cadet Assistant Preston Library 2, 1; Study Abroad Vietnam; Study Abroad Toulouse, France; Model Arab League National Conference; Title IX National Conference; Title IX Vice 1; Corbin Conference, United States Naval Academy, 2

Ice Hockey: 4,3,2,1 (Captain 2,1); Semper Fi: 4,3,2,1 (Operations Officer 2); Cadet Newspaper: 1; Bulldog: 2; Rat Challenge: 3,1; New Market March: 1; Color Cpl: 3; Color Sgt: 2; PVT: 1

2001 - LykinsRP
2007 - HudsonPM



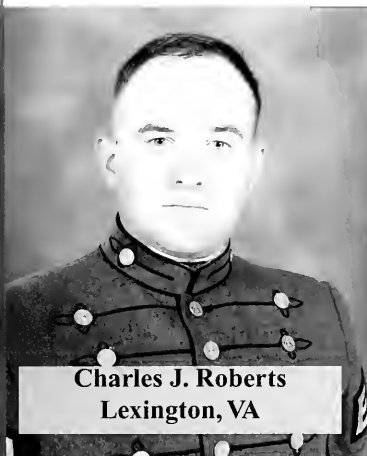
BETTER WOMEN ARE MADE V.M.I. MEN WILL

2001 - Brett Carter
2007 - Clayton Piersall



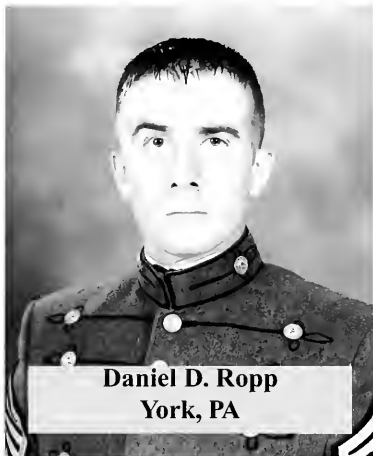
2001 - Songho Pak
2007 - Ryan "Sanchez" Hopping, Jeff "Goatboy" Fusick





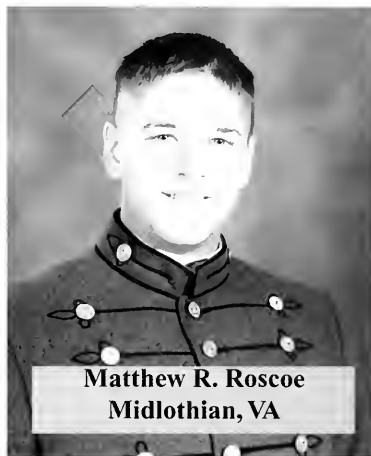
Charles J. Roberts
Lexington, VA

Marine Corps - History



Daniel D. Ropp
York, PA

Navy - Mechanical Engineering



Matthew R. Roscoe
Midlothian, VA

*"Big Scoe"
Air Force - Economics*

Zoom One-One-Three, formerly known as *The 265* and released their debut album, "Evil Temptress (You Have No Power Over Me)" in August of 2003. Although they made no sales to anyone other than their rats, who were forced to buy several copies, they considered their 1st Class year to be an overall success. The addition of a new lead singer, John Hinder, at the beginning of the year completed the struggling duet of Justin Roberts and Anthony Peters. Since that day the three men from three different worlds have grown into what critics are calling the "freshest thing since George Strait himself." This is where the cowboys ride away.

Roberts (Guitar) - Thanks to Grandmother and Bampa, Bampa, I know you saw me graduate from heaven. Thanks to my roommates for always doing everything for me and not calling me lazy. Thanks to the Marine Corps for finally promoting me.

Hinder (Vocals) - Thanks to my folks, the Adams', and the Bryans for supporting me. Thanks to my roommates for putting up with my primping and GQ attitude. "Who says there's nothing more to life than being really, really, ridiculously good-looking?"

Peters (Drums) - Thanks to the fam damly, Chaplain Mark, my Christian brothers of 333, and especially my dyke, Anthony Bravo. Thanks to my roommates for allowing me to be a food box and desk supply parasite. I swear I wasn't a permit worm.

Battalion Color CPL; 1st Battalion Color SGT; Charlie XO; Major D's "Not-So-Smart Firsts"

I first came here as a stepping stone for the Academy; I knew I wanted to fly for Navy but I just didn't know much about VMI until I was thrown into Hell Week. I knew I had to thrive if I wanted to get into the Academy on my second try. But once into the Ratline, I wanted to stay. I realized that other schools were too concerned with politics, social acceptance, and quotas. I felt there was something different about this school, something much better. As a third, second, and first classman I realized my views as a rat were distorted. But there is one thing about this school that I love dearly, the Brotherhood. There were times in my cadetship when I underwent hardships and losses from my home life, but my Brother Rats were always there for me. You guys mean the world to me and I can't thank you enough for that. There is no other school in the nation that would provide that amount of camaraderie. And through events in these past 4 years here, I learned a great lesson about others and myself. You are not part of a legacy; you are not your family's last name; and you are not your diploma. You are yourself. Stay true to your beliefs and to your close friends and to your loved ones and you will not go wrong. Craig, thanks for being an awesome roommate and great friend for 4 years; K and Chen I thank you too. To the rats of 117, keep the faith and help each other out. To my family and Alison, thank you too. And to the men in Tiger Echo and '04, I wish you the best. Amnuit Coepitis.

Clerk, 1SGT, Echo CO; Rat Challenge 3; Ring Figure Design Chairman; Trident Society 4,2,1; Tau Beta Pi 2,1; Phi Eta Sigma 4,3,2,1; Academic Stars 3,2; Dean's List 4,3,2,1; Tae Kwon Do 4; NCMT 3

In August of 2000 I began a transition in my life from being a high school boy to being a man of honor and integrity. My experience attending VMI has somehow been the best and worst years of my life, but I don't regret a second of it. Looking back at my ratline experiences, the weeks of confinement, the numerous penalty tours, and much of the other nonsense, I begin to understand that if nothing else VMI creates an ideal environment to make the best friendships. So many times have I had to count on my friends here to either pick up my slack, or encourage me to do my best. There are too many of you to mention, but you all know who you are, and I credit much of my success at VMI to you guys, and I cannot thank you enough. As for my roommates Andy, Joe, and Eric, you guys are my best friends, and I wish you the best of luck in your careers. Wayne, Baff, Snider, PJ, and T-bone, you all have made me proud. Keep up the hard work throughout your cadetship and you will find your experience to be as gratifying as mine. Lastly, and most significantly, I would like to say thank you to my parents and to my brother. I could not have accomplished any of this without your encouragement and support. Mike, I could not ask for a better brother. Thank you.

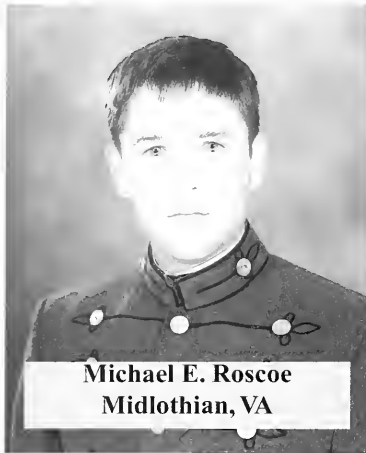
Dean's list 3, Football 3, Private 1, 2, 3, 4, RDC officer 1, A really good looking guy 1, 2, 3, 4

2007 - Mark Miller, Chris Webb

2000 - Erin Claunch
2007 - Craig Aukett and Collin Wu

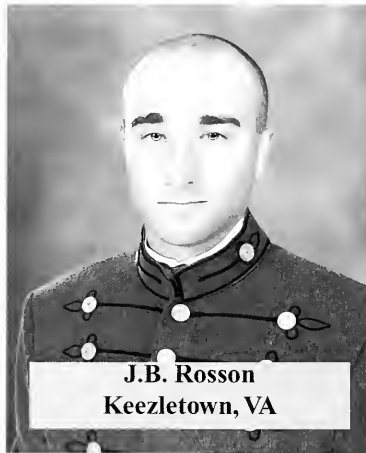
2001 - Jonathan Mazur
2007 - Wayne Huggins





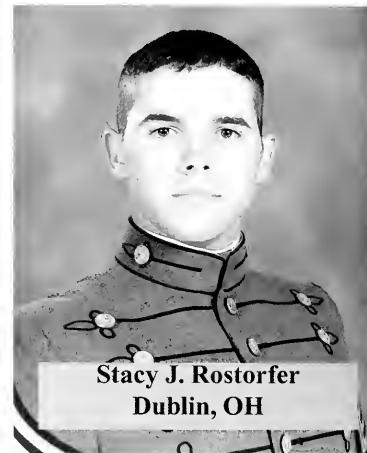
Michael E. Roscoe
Midlothian, VA

Army - Economics



J.B. Rosson
Keezletown, VA

"Hyper-Hypo Kid, Jumping Bear"
Army- Biology



Stacy J. Rostorfer
Dublin, OH

Army - International Studies

I have to say that the past four years of my life have been quite an experience. Though at times it was very difficult and frustrating, I wouldn't trade it for anything. VMI taught me a lot about myself and about people. Throughout the past four years I learned that anything I put my mind to I can accomplish. Most importantly, I have made a lot of great friends, and have met a lot of great people. I want to thank my Mom and Dad for being very supportive of me. For the past four years they have put up with a lot of bad grades, paid for several summer school sessions, and have given me the motivation to stick it out. I could have never done it without you. Matt, I want to thank you for talking me into coming here. You've looked after me my entire life and have kept me in line. You're a great brother and my best friend in the world. I also want to thank my roommates for being there for me and helping me stay in line. The three of you have made this past year very memorable. Finally, I would like to wish my rats, James and Deyunte the best of luck. I hope that the both of you stick it out and continue to work hard. To all of my brother rats, I'm going to miss all of you. Take care of yourselves and God bless.

I can hardly believe my time at VMI is almost over. OH Wait! What's better than four years at VMI? Five!!! I suppose a rat follows in his dyke's footsteps five years at VMI and a number one your first class year. Thanks Phil!!! VMI has helped me forge many excellent friendships. Pete we have had many great times together Flamethrowers, Bombs, Late night sledding adventures, Camping Trips in Glenn's room. Speeding back from Macon to make SRC formations. Climbing up the stoops without using the stairs, Massive firework displays in New Barracks, Paying respect to Cyrus McCormick on the way back from Spanky's, 21st Birthdays, taking Sundays, Falling in the frozen Maury river, Whole country hams being thrown from the courtyard into third classmen's transoms, and finally serving our great first class number ones together. We had some great times and I wish you the best. To Sloth I'll see you next year! Rob, thanks for teaching me that beer is excellent on every night of the week not just Saturdays, and that my priorities should be as follows: God, Honor, Beer, Country, Women. Glenn thanks for Turkey Shooting, Tailgating, electrodes, and our kick ass Spring Break in Myrtle Beach. I wish you and Amy the best! Most importantly I would like to thank my parents and my brothers for the love and support they have shown me to help me make it through the VMI Experience!!!

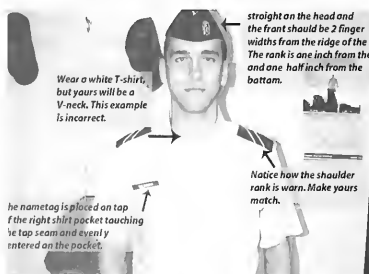
"To give anything less than your best is to sacrifice the gift!"
Track Team Captain 1; Indoor Track 4.3.2.1;
Outdoor Track 4.3.2.1; Virginia History Society 1;
Alpha 3rd Platoon Guide Sergeant 2; PVT 4.3.1
ACS 4.3; Number 1 Club 1; H.E.A.T. 182.2.1;
Lance Corporal 3; Honorary Delta company member 1;
O-Lab 3.2.1

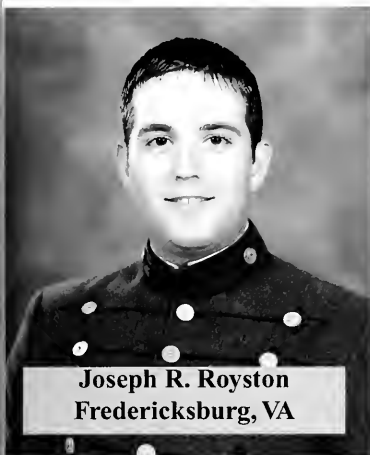
My dykes always told me they felt sorry for me. I now know why. They felt sorry for me because I had my whole cadetship ahead of me. I realized that when I looked at my rats, Victor Karpov and Michael Pesano, and felt what my dykes felt. Remembering the suicidal Friday nights 3rd Class year. The "it's never gonna end" feeling 2nd Class year. I just hope they stick with it and try not to think about what other college students are doing while you rot in barracks. Despite that, my dyke, Matthew Larrison, said it was worth it. He always helped me out and told me to listen to him. He said he would never get me screwed. He never got me screwed. I said the same thing to my rats... I just hope they listen. But I am still waiting to see if this place was worth it or not.

1st PLT SGT; 1st PLT LT

2001 - Phil Weismiller
2007 - Mira Veis

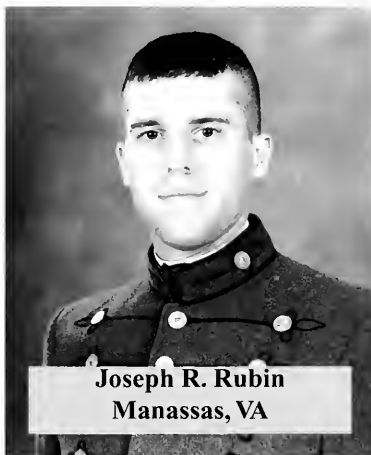
2001 - Matthew Larrison
2007 - Victor Karpov, Michael Pesano





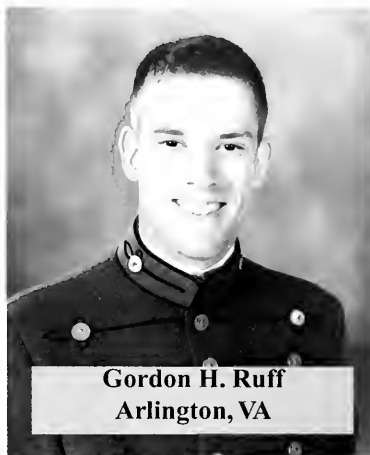
Joseph R. Royston
Fredericksburg, VA

Army- Economics



Joseph R. Rubin
Manassas, VA

Army- History/International Studies



Gordon H. Ruff
Arlington, VA

Army- History

It has been an extremely long road. The last four years have felt like an eternity, but now that it is almost over, it feels like just yesterday I was walking the rat line and feeling sub-human. In the long run though, this environment and education has been good for me. I have learned to deal with adversity when it is necessary and to leave the trivial matters alone. For this, I thank the Institute. This unique lesson has been readily apparent when working with or just observing other college students in any given environment, who frequently panic over the little things. I have had my highs and had my lows when here. You think coming back from Christmas break as a rat was difficult? Believe me, next year it will turn your stomach. However, by garnering friendships with Joe, Bryan, Justin, Dennis, and Keith, I have had people to go through it with. Your friends here will last a lifetime. I have also overcome seemingly insurmountable challenges through the help of Chaplain Park, and in doing so have strengthened my relationship with God. If you guys ever have anything weighing on your hearts and don't know who to turn to first, remember that Chap will always be there to listen. Lastly, I would just like to let you guys know how awesome it has been getting to know you both throughout the course of this year. Jon, when you put that bayonet through your foot, I almost died laughing. Nate, when you almost got busted for an A-1, I was right there fighting for you. The year has been more fun than it would have been without someone, to not only have clean my room, but to give whatever guidance I possibly could about this weird, confusing, frustrating place. If there is one thing to take away from me: God, Family, Others, Self.

Officer of the Guard Association 1, Big Brother Program 3. Mentor for at-risk students 4.3.2.1, Flag Football Great White Hype 4.3.2.1

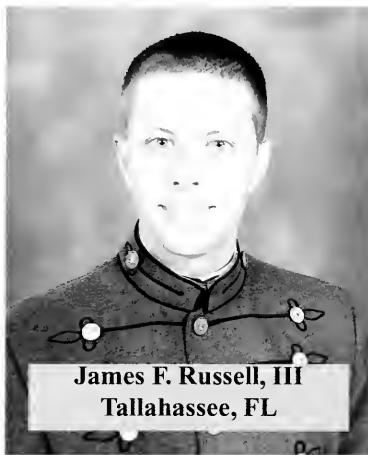
2001 - Will Felvey, Brady Daniels,
Brian Lakin, Taylor Mawyer
2007 - Nathan McCall, Jon Schmidt





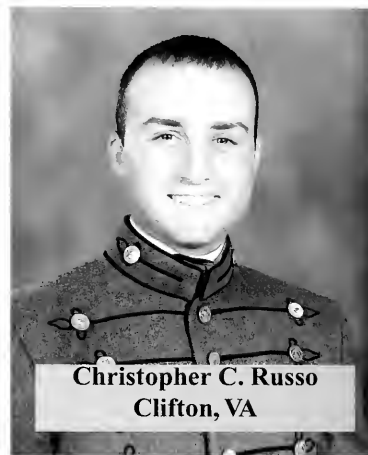
Jonathan E. Rushin
Springfield, VA

"Rush, Sapper Jon, Rushout, & Kickstand"
Army - Biology



James F. Russell, III
Tallahassee, FL

"Spaz. Spazrat, Rizzo"
Army - History



Christopher C. Russo
Clifton, VA

"Russo"
Army - Economics

I am not too good with these kind of things so I just thought it better to recall some of the moments in my history at VMI that allowed me to meet some of the most foul mouthed, dirty, socially inept people and some of my closest and best friends. The late night hours spent drinking and dancing at the Mirage with Lexington's finest. The poor Australian nanny and the wonderful way she smelt. The longest trip to Savannah that was filled with the most delightful stops along the way. The extensive jokes from friends about my narcoleptic "game". The night we travelled down Lightening Creek. The joyous goodbyes at Roanoke airport. The hours wasted watching Star Trek with a certain Trekkie. The moment I knew my friend was "in deep". The countless hours spent playing Griffey Baseball, and for the record I carried the team. Tucking wife heaters into boxers just because it's cool. Watching just how much "Peter Vella" could be consumed in one evening. Working on "the plan" and thinking how much fun three of us could have at Spring Break. Returning to "the old Jon" after a prolonged leave of absence. When you smell something just to make sure that your friend is telling the truth. I finally found the ultimate sign of friendship is going out for a night and spitting all over some friends. To the kids of 112 and 106, we have shared so much and I can only imagine what great things we will achieve outside of this place, except Flounder, Dirty and I, we'll always manage to mess up something. There are some other people that I would love to thank for the support and help through my career at VMI. Thank you Mom and Dad, you two have made my achievements possible through long hours and hard work, you two are the model of what I dream to be. To Peter, Michael, and Morgan, without your smiling faces and humorous ways I would never have found the simple joys in life. Thank you all and God bless you all.

Rugby 4,3,2,1, RDC

Well, these past few years have certainly been wild. They have been filled with a mix of good as well as bad memories. I entered as a rat, and hated life. returned as a third, hated life even more. After nearly failing out of here, I returned as a second and rebuilt my cadetship and began looking more towards my future, a direction I feel that I have been pointed into ever since. I want to thank my pals, Charlie, Winston, Keith, John. I couldn't have made it without you guys, ya'll are the greatest. I also want to thank my family for their support (and picking up the bill). To my girl Laura, I love you very much and I couldn't have made it these past two years without your support in all that I do. To my rat Nate, stick it out; it's all worth it in the end.

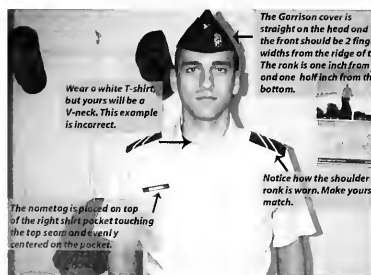
PVT 4,3,2,1; Fencing 4, 3, 2

It feels like just yesterday I packed my bags and checked into my room on the 4th stoop. I didn't know any of my roommates and I had no idea what was in store for me. Now, the end has come. It is about time! These 4 years have been crazy! I've learned a lot about myself and a lot about others. I've made some of the best friends and shared some of the greatest moments. Sure, my brother rats and I didn't get to experience those typical college years, but I would not trade our experiences for anything. It is weird to hear myself say that because, as all my brother rats and I know, VMI is a twisted place. I've definitely learned how to deal with stress and manage time, that's for sure! The sleep deprivation, early morning hours, long days, oppressive administration, demanding academic requirements, and ROTC training events have been tough! But it is strange, all of those annoying moments and aspects did not compare to the good times I have shared with my friends here. I still haven't forgotten and will never forget filling out and mailing in the application for early admission into this "prison." The odd thing is I now know that it was one of the best decisions of my life. It has been a pleasure to share the VMI experience with my brother rats. I wish all of them the best of luck. To all of the roommates I've had, you guys are the best! I hope to keep in touch way beyond VMI! Tiger Echo! 2004! Rah Virginia Mil!

Ranger Company - 4,3,2,1; Ranger Challenge - 2;
Marshall New Market Battalion SGM 2; Marshall
New Market Battalion CDR 1; Cadre Corporal 3;
Dean's List 4,3; Marshall Awards Honor Guard 3,2

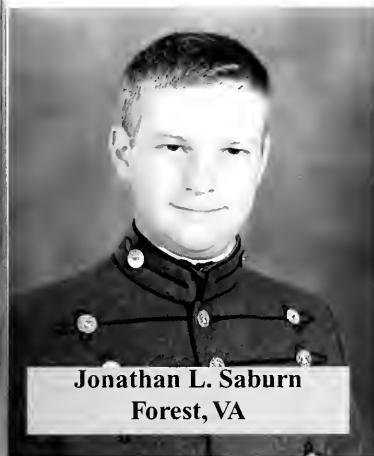
2001 - Chris Rodgers
2007 - Nate Rasnick

2001 - Michael Gantert
2007 - Christopher Nelson



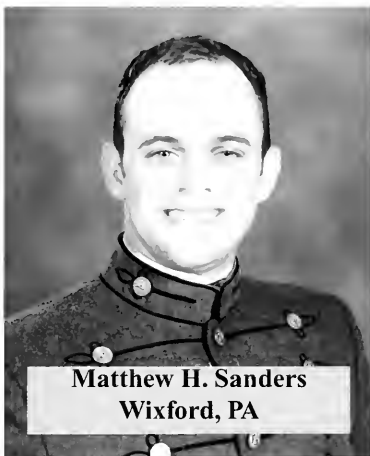
132 First Class





Jonathan L. Saburn
Forest, VA

Navy - Mechanical Engineering



Matthew H. Sanders
Wixford, PA

*"Oswald, Fatboy, Colonel"
Navy- Mechanical Engineering*



Musa B. Sarki
Hampton, VA

Army- Econmics

After four years of this place, I have seen and done a lot. I have heard many guest speakers, completed many physical, mental, and emotional obstacles, and have learned a lot. I have met a lot of people and made many friends. I want to thank my parents, grandparents, friends, and my wife to be for their encouragement and strength during my cadetship. I couldn't do anything without them or God. I want to thank Maj. Brown and Sgt. Maj. Green for their encouragement to attend VMI and for their wisdom. I want to thank my dyke, Elijah, for helping me through my first year here. I want to thank my roommates for their help and friendship. I also want to thank my rat roommate, Josh, for giving me the added motivation to succeed, and may God bless you. I couldn't thank enough people for all that they have done for me. With everything said and done, I am looking forward to what my future holds and will always look back and be grateful for what VMI has done for me. I am a different person in everyway. My spiritual growth has improved, I feel fearless, and I'm ready and willing to engage in whatever my future has in store for me.

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times. The past few years have been filled with many memories of practical jokes and impressions of professors. The first people I met at the "I" after Hell Week, were my dykes and my codyke. Many good times were had in room 166, and I will never forget Bunny Foo-Foo, The Mule, or the AIDS Blanket. My co-dyke, Frank Palaia, and I moved in together at the start of 3rd class year. We lived with Drew Hardin and Charlie Munn until Old Frank (now 28) graduated as a second classman.

First class year was without a doubt the best year here. I got to know the bowels of NEB even more intimately. I was never there alone though; Dave "Monkey" Kendzior, Kent Monas, Dan Ropp, and Erin Waters were all prisoners in NEB with me. We managed to do well that semester despite all the late nights filled with complaining, joking, and lots wasted time when Bubba was around. I would like to thank my parents and all of my family for their support (and also care packages) over the past few years. Thanks to my friends on the rugby team for not hitting too hard when I first started playing. Finally, I would like to say thank you to my dad specifically for telling me that I would make it and this place would be like home eventually. You were dad.

Baptist Student Union: 4.3.2; 1: CIC 2.1 ACIC 3;
Cadet Counseling Staff 2.1: CIC 1; Religious Affairs
Committee: 3; Cadet Tour Guide: 4.3; ASME: 1;
ASHRAE: 1

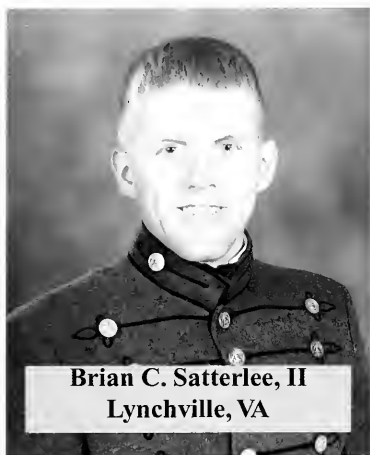
Water polo 4; Boxing 2; Rugby 1

*2001 - Elijah Ward
2007 - Nathan Fifer, William Konrad*



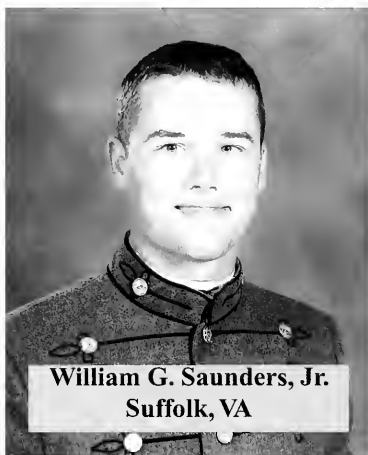
*2001 - Samora Leacock
2007 - Matt Kania, John Suhrwerer*





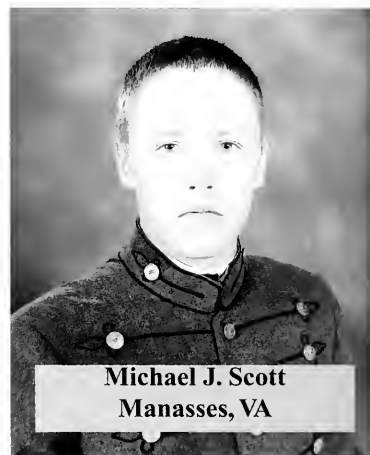
Brian C. Satterlee, II
Lynchville, VA

"The Pope, Satellite"
Army - History



William G. Saunders, Jr.
Suffolk, VA

Army - Mechanical Engineering



Michael J. Scott
Manassas, VA

"Gay Scott, F.A.S. Mike, Buckshot, Gen. Custer"
Army - History

To The Class of 2004 The road that we have tread upon has certainly been an uphill battle. We have certainly seen the blunt end of many struggles that the Institute has thrown our way, from our intense ratline to all the way through the confinement, pts, and so on until that well deserved day in May 2004. We came, we fought, and on the other end have come out as brothers. I want you'll to know that each one of you can always count on me to be there when you need me to be, all you have to do is Ask. To my roommates: We've been through a lot in the past few years, from lots of laughing and goofing off, through "few" disagreements, and plenty of other stuff, but I have truly enjoyed living with you guys all these years.

To My Buddies in Other Classes: I will certainly miss you guys, and I feel confident in my Class leaving the Institute in your hands. I know you'll do your best to keep up the traditions of this place, and that you will stand strong till the end. Seek out the weird humor of this place (trust me, it's there), and keep focused on the goal of graduation; it will come quicker than you might think.

The Class of 2007: You have become a class of this sacred school. Never forget what your dykes taught you, because we truly gave our all and sacrificed much in order to turn you into VMI Cadets. To the Rats of Room 144 Each of you were great rats, and it was a pleasure becoming your friend as we strived to mold you into the cadets we wanted you to be, and you certainly have made us proud.

To Echo Company: Violence, Intensity, Discipline.

Rat 4; Club Soccer 4,3,2,1; Ranger Company 2; Religious Affairs Committee 1; OGA Secretary 1

Although I'm not sure of the extent to what I have learned here, I leave this place with a much better understanding of how not to lead people. I thank the administration, who can destroy the morals of any good group of people, for that.

But looking back on my four years here, I have still not yet figured out why I came here in the first place. I think most of all, I had something to prove, not to others, but to myself. But in the end, I have learned that I could not have made it by myself. Mom, Dad, Sissy, and Shea, you have taught me that hard work and perseverance can get you anywhere, and I couldn't have made it this far without you all. Thank ya'll for always being there for me. Nicholas and Meredith, stay as far away from these dark gates as you can, but I wish you as much luck as I have had. Lauren, I never thought I could find someone as special as you, but we have made it! Thank you for always being there for me and getting me through it all when this place sucked the most.

Will and Adam, what were we thinking?...but I'm glad we screwed up together. Brian, I never thought I could be such good friends with a Yankee, but at least you've got jokes. Justin, I should have written a book about the things you say in your sleep...I could have cashed in. Thank you all for making this place worth coming back to every year. See ya'll on the other side

Private: 4,3,2,1; Strength and Fitness: 2; Tailgater: 4,3,2,1

Everybody has had an experience with the illustrious "Gay Scott". From his letal build to his ability to piss off anyone and everyone with just a few simple words, good 'ol Mike has become accustomed to getting beaten and "typing letters home". "No Keesee, you're not my Brother Rat. Now get out of my food box." Mike's noble study habits of sleeping during the day and playing on IM at night have won him his own "special" set of Rackademic Stars. Known under the alias of "Internet Bandit", Mike has been able to: 1. Almost lose his life after emailing his 1st PLT SGT questioning his sexual preference; 2. Piss off select females in the Corps by publicizing their special message of "Rape me and steal my panties!"; 3. Putting his MSGT on HotoNot.com; and 4. Single handedly convincing most of his BRs to block him from IM.

His other habits make him quite peculiar. He likes to eat on his perch. He landed a certain Mexican friend two #3's over a head-shaving incident. It's a shame they didn't kick you out Mike. However, there's still love for you in Spackard. Truly devoted to his "better half", Mike spends most of his time on the phone, or IM, or both at the same time. He inadvertently caused Nate to lose his teeth, had his genitalia "extremely scalded", and received an engagement Jeep from his woman. But by God, he sure does love her. At least that's what he's going to tell the court when she divorces his ass and tries to take back his vehicle. Mike is like the little brother none of us ever had (or wanted). He was always there with his goofy smile and gay outlook on life. He even "pretended" he was on the hockey team. But even with all his faults, Mike will be greatly missed. We love you Mike, even though you're the one and only "Gay Scott".

Ranger Company: 4; OGA Delta Co. Rep: 1; VMI Ice Hockey Team: 2,1; Shaft Miner: 1; HNT Club Charter Member: 2, 1; VMI Air Assault Team: 2; VMI Rack Club: 4,3,2,1.

2001 - Patrick Blevins
2007 - Drew Wade

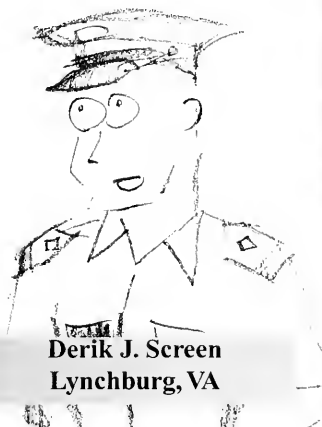


2001 - Carey Michael, John Jicha
2007- Robert Crumpler



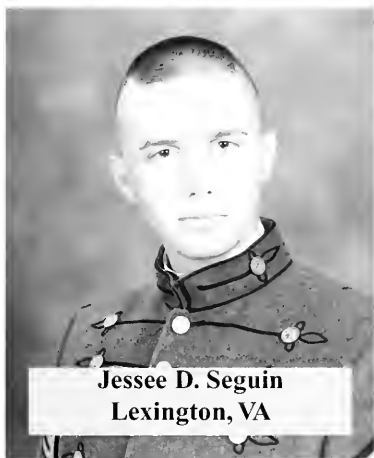
2001 - Joe Furtsek
2007 - Mike "Scuba Diver, Race Car Driver" McAvoy





Derik J. Screen
Lynchburg, VA

Army- Psychology



Jessee D. Seguin
Lexington, VA

"Penguin"

Marine Corps - Philosophy



Robert W. Serig
Vienna, VA

Navy- Philosophy

Well I've paid my dues. VMI has paid its dues to me also, about \$100,000 dollars now. If I weren't such an asset to the sports teams here I would have been long gone and would have not had this opportunity to get this piece of paper that I have shed my blood, sweat and tears to get. I would like to thank all of the coaches that believed in me when all others lost their faith. All the fallen soldiers that I have known and have been acquainted with that are no longer here and won't be able to enjoy this success that we very few call graduation. I am just thankful that somehow I have found the perseverance to finish what I started and stand for what I believe in. If I could go back I wouldn't do anything differently because my experience here has changed me and the way I look at the world. For those of you who never took the time to get to know me, you missed out; to those who I never took the time to get to know, it's probably because you didn't want me to know you. It's all good; we are still B.R.s till the end. All my homies you know who you are, much love to you, if you ever need anything just HOLLA!!

LOVE YOU MOM, SIS, TASHIA, thanks for your support and encouragement. I will pay you back in \$\$\$

In this small space, I cannot tell all of the stories about my experiences over the past four years. I just want to say thank you to the people who made my journey that much better.

First off I have to thank my mother. She was one of the few that always believed in me and kept me happy with her numerous care packages.

Next is James S. Magoffin, class of 1939 and his wife Dot. Without their support, I never would have made it to VMI in the first place. I will never forget the great opportunity and future they have given to me.

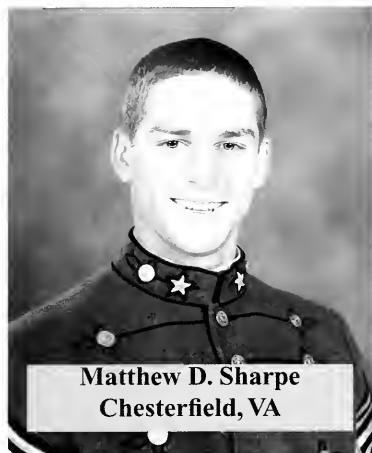
Master Sergeant William "Top" Dill (USMC Ret.) is the next person on my list. He was one of the greatest influences upon me throughout high school, and always challenged me to become a better person.

Finally, I want to thank all of my family, dykes, room mates, friends, brother rats, professors, and anyone else I may not have mentioned for all the time we have spent together, good and bad, throughout my years here at VMI.

Society of Physics Students: 1,2,3,4; Eagle Scout Association: 3,4; Venture Crew: 2; Dean's List: 1,4; Rank: 1,2,3; Cadre: 1,2

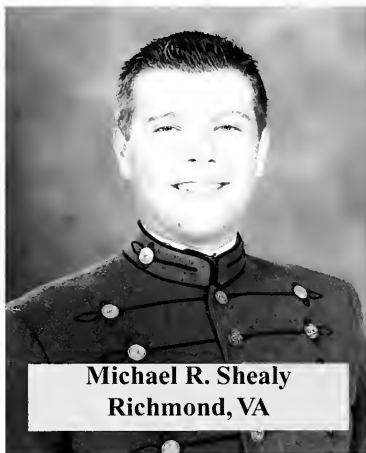
2001 - Aaron Trombley
2007 - Kevin Vik





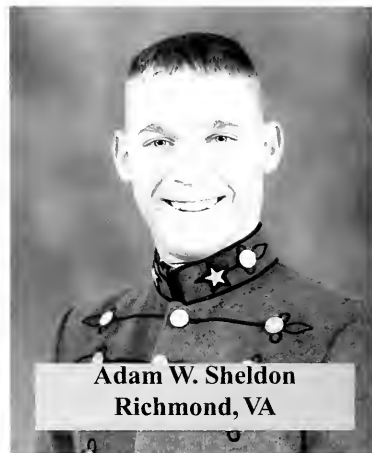
Matthew D. Sharpe
Chesterfield, VA

"Sharpie, Mr. Automatic"
Air Force - Computer Science



Michael R. Shealy
Richmond, VA

"Smiley, Sheabiscuit, The Sexman"
Air Force- Electrical Engineering



Adam W. Sheldon
Richmond, VA

"Nascar"
Air Force - Mechanical Engineering

How can you write a memoir of your cadetship in 325 words? I'd have to address history, traditions, friendships, hardships, dinner conversations. I'd have to consider who I was at the beginning of the ratline, and who I think I have become today, who I think I can be tomorrow, what I believe I can accomplish, and already have accomplished. Deep down, I know what those things are. If you know me well enough, you know the memories that I am referring too. Graduating is bitter sweet. Regardless, I will look back fondly on my experience at VMI. It has been an experience unlike any other college and I am thankful for it. My accolades have been stunning, in fact, humbling. I believe two things about them: 1) that I did not accomplish them alone, and 2) it was because I was *prepared* to meet them head on, not because of some hidden talent. My thank yous, got something like this - in some particular order. To my dykes and Tennille, you set the example, and in some cases set the one not to follow. To my roommates: Thank you for your patience, your support, your friendship, and correcting me when I got out of line. I am, and always will be in your debt. And yes, I am a dork. To my mentor, Col. Robert McDonald: thank you for pushing me to a level I did not know I could attain. Thank you and Dr. McDonald for allowing me to see my life in a new way. Mom and Dad, a simple thank you and I love you. You know how much you mean. Thank you grandma for always listening to my games on the radio. And Alexis - you have supported me from beginning to end, through good times and bad. You are truly amazing, truly incredible. I love you Olive. "What you are thinking about, you are becoming." - Muhammad Ali

9th Cpl. 3; S-5 Sgt. 2; S-5 CPT 1; CIG 3,2,1;
English Society 3,2,1; Honors Program 3,2,1;
Football 4,3,2,1; Dork 4,3,2,1

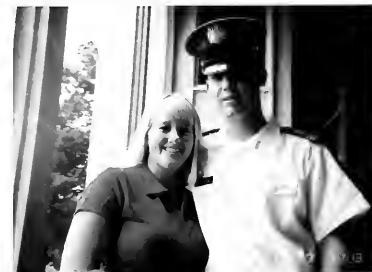
Well y'all, we made it. The past four years have definitely passed by a lot faster than I expected. Mom, Brooke & Ash, Eryn, & Dad, I love you so much, it's because of you that I had the strength and determination to make it through. Will, Nisha & Annette, thanks for putting up with my constant rantings about stuff that only applies to this place, & yet still helping me make sense of it all, even though nothing here makes sense. Derric & Jake - you rock, plain and simple. You're the epitome of what BRs and friends are supposed to be, I'm going to miss our Wednesday night tradition. You have taught me more about life, determination, & hard work than I ever thought was possible from two people. I'll be there if you ever need anything, like y'all have always been for me. To the '04 EE's - we survived the toughest curriculum at this place (let the MEs think what they want, we know the truth) and came out fairly unscathed. Good luck with whatever you decide to do, I have no doubt all of you will be extremely successful. To ALL of my rats (ring, official & surrogate), keep your head up and a smile on your face no matter what this place throws at you. These four years go by faster than you can imagine, don't waste any of the time you have here, because it's short and precious. *tink* These walls are kind of funny. First you hate 'em, then you get used to 'em. Enough time passes, gets so you depend on them."

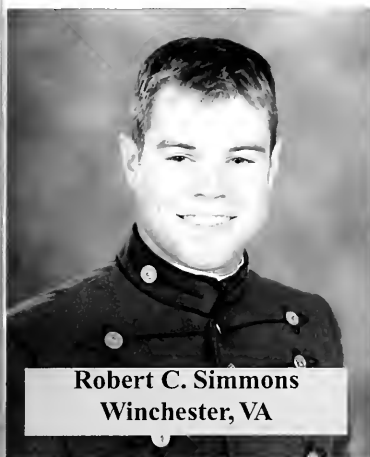
Tae Kwon Do Club 4,3,2,1 (CIC); Preston Library Cadet Assistant 3,2,1 (CIC); IEEE 2,1 (Secretary); Theater 4,3,2; Title IX Committee 2,1(President)

Before I started my long cadetship at VMI I was a young kid who had no idea what he was getting into. Then the Ratline began and I realized that for four years here at VMI were going to be the hardest years of my life. I am thankful to have such good parents that supported me during my cadetship, even my wonderful academic rat year. I want to thank all my family, friends and professors for helping me succeed as a student and a cadet here. I want to thank my girlfriend who stayed with me through my cadetship and put up with VMI's B.S. I want to thank my roommate Chris for making the last two years a blast. Finally, I want to thank my BRs for making it easier to get through this place.

2001 - Andy Duncan
2007 - Sally Coffman, Karen Bill

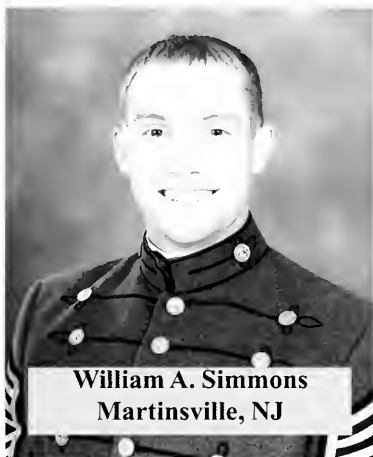
2001 - Tom Graham
2007 - Stuart Craft





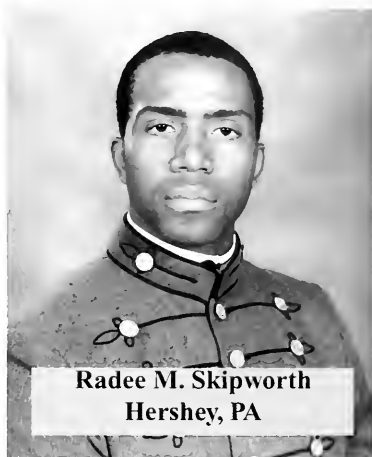
Robert C. Simmons
Winchester, VA

Army- Mathematics



William A. Simmons
Martinsville, NJ

Air Force - Psychology



Radee M. Skipworth
Hershey, PA

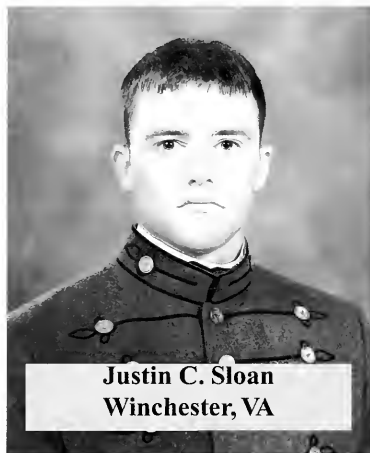
Army- Psychology

When you first arrive here, four years seems like an eternity and your final day seems like a distant dream. Four years later you realize the day has come and the time you spent here went faster than any other time in your life. The time went quickly not because of pointless formations or endless inspections, but rather because it was spent with good friends having great times. It is impossible to accurately describe the good times had by rooms 112 and 106. You guys made this place not only bearable, but at times downright hysterical. Thanks for the memories...!!! WISEMEN. I owe a great deal of gratitude to the lacrosse team...it was an honor and a pleasure to play with you guys. To my parents, no words can express how much your support, guidance, and love helped me not only get through VMI, but come out on top. I owe so much of my success to you and I will never forget everything you have done for me. I love you both. For my brother, make everything count. Time flies, enjoy it and get the most out of everything. There are no shortcuts to any place worth going and you have no limit in potential. Remember I'm always there for you. My final year here has been one of the greatest for several reasons: chief among them is because of the girl I love. Sam, here's to the memories we have and to the memories to come. Thank you for the countless visits, the constant support, and most importantly, your love. I love you.

Lacrosse 1,2,3,4; Team Captain 1,2,3; Dean's List 1,2,3,4; S-6 Captain 1; Athletic Council 1; Academic Mentor 2

2001 - Derek Bogdon
2007 - Curtis Jaques, Rob Di
Domenico

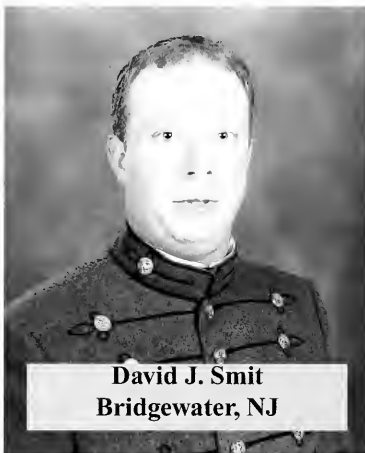




Justin C. Sloan
Winchester, VA

"Sloany"

Army - English



David J. Smit
Bridgewater, NJ

Army- Electrical Engineering



Brandon M. Smith
Chapel Hill, NC

Army- Economics

First and foremost, I have to thank my family for helping me get through this place. It's been a never-ending struggle and I wouldn't be where I am today without you guys. With that said, I also have to thank the Man upstairs. My prayers have been answered and I thank God every day that I've made it this far. To Robert and Colby... Hang in there guys. Life is going to suck for the next three years, but it'll pay off. And for the love of Stonewall Jackson, please remember what we've taught you guys about this place. Be smart. To all my homeboys... You guys mean everything to me (purely heterosexual). We've been through so much together. The missions, all-nighters, booze-cruises to JMU. Post-It notes, Jay's cell-phone, motion725, Will's big-ass toes, the Maury River Fiddler's Convention, Chunk v. UVA's D-End, the Learning Center crew, my fantastic Disney internship, intramural runs, Casteel in the morning, crazy adventures with Porter, drinking with Terrell, Base Co., crashing at Musedogg's, the stun gun, BV basement, the Goped, gongondy68, St. Patty's in Savannah, the waterfalls, Will's superfluous third nipple, and the list goes on and on (just kidding about the nipple thing). To Club 114... Brian (aka Rabbitt, what can I say? My "VM experience" wouldn't have been the same without you. Good times bro. Jay (aka Hands-Free), these past four years have a really flown by. Thanks for always being there for me. Will (aka Spookdaws), you're my hero. Thanks for supporting my dream to be a keyboardist in an '80s band. I'll make you proud some day. Well fellas, our days of fine dining in Crozet, answering Specials, and savoring that sweet smell of Brasso are long gone. The Tears for Fears smash-hit "Everybody Wants to Rule the World" says it best "Welcome to your life. There's no turning back."

Varsity Baseball 4; Rugby Football Club 3;
Private 4, 3, 2, 1

Thank you Mom and Dad for always believing in me and supporting me through the tough times. I could never have made it this far without you. Col. Bush, I will never be able to thank you or repay you for all that you have done for me over the past four years. I attribute all of my success to you because both you and I know that it would never have been possible without you. Thank you for dragging me out of barracks so many times and forcing me to study. I never appreciated it then, but couldn't be more grateful to have someone like you to be there for me. CB...I will miss the good times in Scott-Ship. The roommates: thanks for always putting up with my shitty attitude after marathon sessions in Scott-Ship...it must have really sucked. Matty, I hope that Led gives you a place in the band, we all know you deserve it. Steve-o, good luck in your pursuit of finding the perfect (normal!) wife. Tito, stay out from behind bars and tell the heavy girls to treat you nicely. Seriously though, I wish all three of you the best of luck in everything that you do. We had some great times in the 48s, times that I won't ever forget. Thanks guys. The rats: what a year it has been, and man did it go by fast. I apologize that I wasn't always around for you guys, I guess I got myself into a few too many things this year. That is one thing that I will always regret. I couldn't be prouder of you two. You two are the two hardest workers I know. Add good luck with soccer, keep on working hard, you can do whatever you want when you put your mind to it. Zach, keep kicking ass with wrestling, all your hard work will pay off. I want to thank you two for all the good times we had just goofing off in the room. I will cherish those times. Good luck in your last three years and keep your grades up.

Ae Stars 3,4; Dean's List 2, 3, 4; Phi Kappa Phi 3, 4; Omicron Delta Epsilon 3, 4; Institute Honors Program 3, 4; CIG 3, 4; Reg. Color SGT 3; S-2 LT 4; Pre-Law 2, 3, 4; Ae. Mentor 3, 4; Fundraising Committee 2, 3; Tutor 3; Marathon Club 3; Swim Team 1; LN Crew 2, 3, 4

2001 - Ryan Colvin

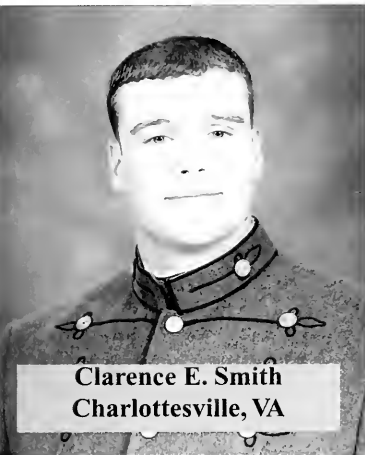
2007 - Robert Crumpler, Colby Hollingsworth



2001 - David B. Russell

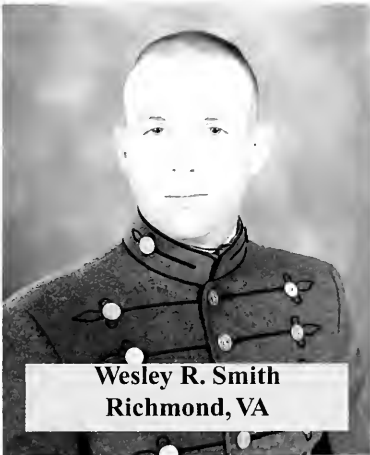
2007 - Addison Palanza, Zach Crush





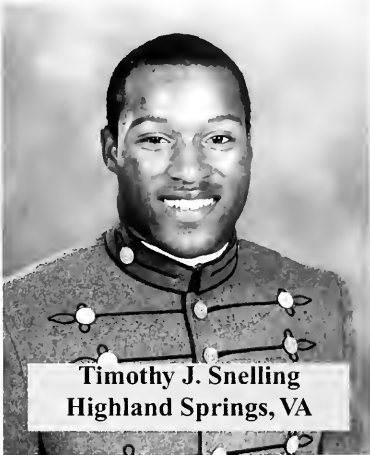
Clarence E. Smith
Charlottesville, VA

"C-Rock, C-Murder"
Army- Civil Engineering



Wesley R. Smith
Richmond, VA

Army- History

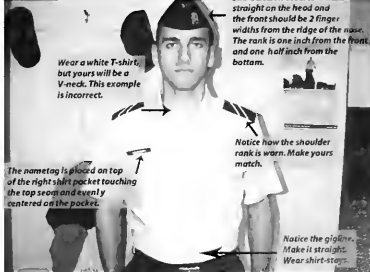


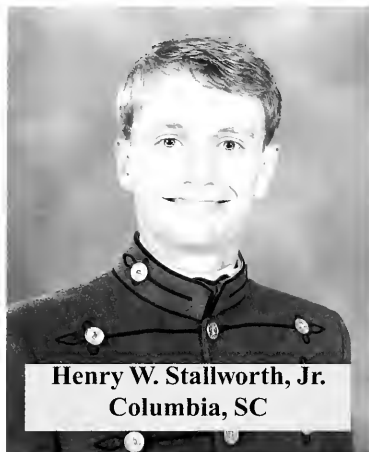
Timothy J. Snelling
Highland Springs, VA

Air Force- Computer Science

"It's been real and its been fun, but it hasn't been real fun."

2001 - Ed Webb
2007 - Adam Reel





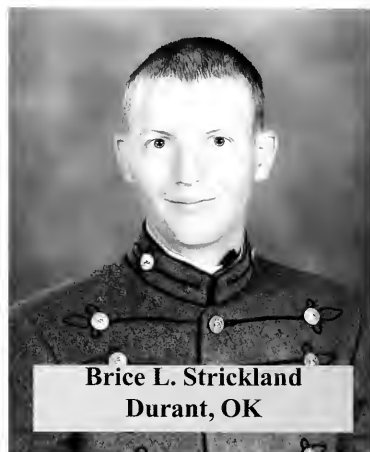
Henry W. Stallworth, Jr.
Columbia, SC

Army- International Studies



Kevin D. Strait
Earlsville, VA

"Beaker, Bill"
Army- International Studies



Brice L. Strickland
Durant, OK

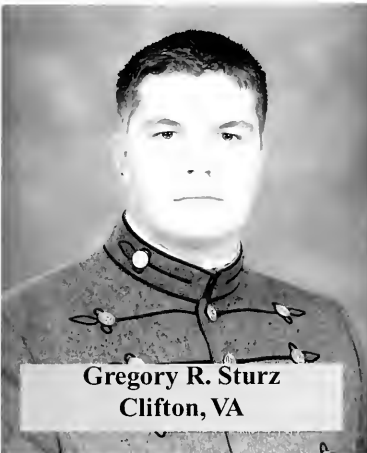
Army- International Studies

Graduation has finally arrived and I am glad to be leaving this place. It hasn't always been easy or fun and I have often wished I could change the way people run this place. It is sad to say that not a lot gets done with any common sense around here but that is the way VMI works. It is an experiment in poor leadership, watch what everyone does here and do the opposite and you will succeed. I do have to say thanks to my parents because I owe them a lot. You have always been here for me whenever I needed something, large or small. We have not always gotten along but you have certainly done more for me than I can thank you for. Mike, you have been a great roommate and a true friend. We have spent some crazy times together. Boone, Gary, Oz, Wes, Tim, you guys have been awesome to hang out with. I don't think the Southern Inn would be the same without us there throwing back a few. This has sure been quite an adventure and some things have sucked but then again we have had a blast going out on the weekends or chilling in the room. To Dan and Travis, you guys have been great rats. You two really have a chance to make it far at this place. Keep up the good work. Have fun guys, take it easy, Oz don't get too bald, Mike, let the adventures of Larry continue, and Gary, stay away from the trash cans. Later.

Rat Challenge: 1,2,3; Ranger Company: 1,2,3,4

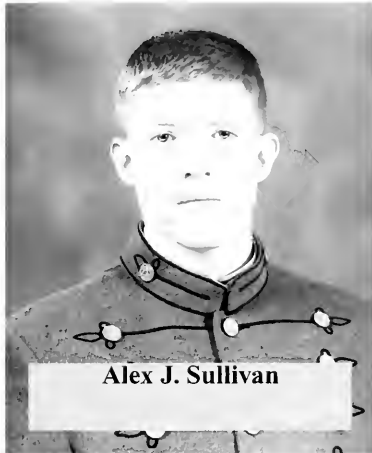
2001 - Matt Meyers
2007 - Dan Strasser





Gregory R. Sturz
Clifton, VA

Army- Biology



Alex J. Sullivan

"Sully"



Kenneth G. Sydnor
Warsaw, VA

"Snyder, Redneck, T.I.T."
Army- Economics

I never thought that I would see the day that I would be asked to write this. It seems like an eternity and a fraction of a second ago that I watched my dyke fill out this history and leave some departing words. VMI has taught me many things. Some of them are good, but some I would rather forget. Looking back, I can say with certainty, that what I have gained by coming to this place far outweighs what I have sacrificed. First and foremost, I would like to thank my parents for supporting me in every way. Mark, thanks for the time we have spent together over the last 4 years. We have been through some crazy times together. Everything from "boo" to running from the cops in Myrtle. You truly are more than a brother to me. To my boys C-Rock, Joe, Andy, Matt and everyone else...it's been the best mistake I ever made.

The problem with summaries is that they inherently require something to end first...and I don't entirely like that idea in this case. Okay, sure, I'm not going to miss certain things. Crozet will always make my stomach churn, the sound of keys will always make me nervous, and that damn White's Truck Stop sign will always give me the pre-sweat party butterflies coming down 81. The things I will miss, however, are too numerous to list in 325 words or less. All I can say is it has been a long trip and in the end you guys made all the difference. Girls come and go. Hell, some of our BRs and best friends did too, but somewhere along the way we set ourselves apart. See, we all suffered from the same afflictions. Sometimes it was the Commandant's Staff, sometimes it was physical or mental exhaustion, and sometimes it was simply watching Confinement Theater together on a Saturday night. Vinny, Jim, Chuck, Rory, Timm and Flurmen, you guys changed me forever. If I didn't have you guys I probably wouldn't have any bad habits, I'd be at a normal college (with an intact computer) and I'd probably be much more "normal" ... wow thanks fellas! You kept me smiling when I needed it and kept me in line when I needed it even more. VMI was the other poor bastards around to you. It was him teaching us not to throw out clean laundry. Am I going to miss the 1? Yeah, Probably more than I am willing to admit. Advice for the future: "When a thing is done, it's done. Don't look back. Look forward to your next objective." (George C. Marshall). "And it ought to be remembered that there is nothing more difficult to take in hand, more perilous to conduct, or uncertain in its success, than to take the lead in the introduction of a new order of things" (Niccolo Machiavelli, The Prince) I know I'll see ya'll there...

First, I must extend a world of thanks to the people who made this possible. Mom you are blessing that I have only begun to understand. Your continuing love and support throughout this ordeal has made it tolerable. Dad you will always be the person I strive to emulate, with your strength of conviction and leadership. If I had to grow up as the "Sheriff's boy" again, I would do so proudly. Kevin, I want to wish you the best as you start your life outside the Corps as a State Trooper. Give them hell and remember that you are always fighting the good fight.

Julie, you have stuck with me through thick and thin for the past four years. I cannot begin to tell you how much your love has meant to me. To my roommates Bryan, Ben, Rich and Graham, this place wouldn't have been bearable (or as interesting) without you. Good luck with whatever journey life may have in store for you and remember I will always be there when needed. To my friends, the faculty of the Economics and Business department, my dykes and my rats, you have all left a mark on my life and will not be forgotten.

As for my time here at VMI, I must say I have accomplished most of the goals I set for myself. I came here with lofty notions and am very proud of having endured the Ratline. Since that time however, I have become disheartened with many aspects of VMI. One can only wish that the fabled pendulum swings back towards center as regimes change. As for me, I am ready to begin my journey through life and only hope that my time here will have some profound effect on my future.

Football 4.3.2.1; RDC 1; All-Pro 2

1CPL 3; MSG 2, PVT 1, NCMT 1, 2, 3; Dean's List 4.3.2.1; Commandant's List 3.2.1; French Honor Society 3.2.1

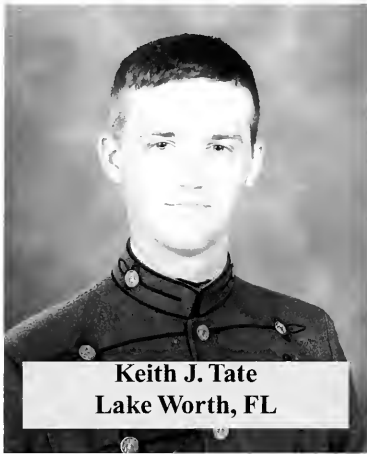
Cadet Investment Group 1.2; Bloodmobile 1.2.3.4; Rat Challenge 3; Rank 1.2.3; Dean's List 1.2.3.4

2001 - Matt Prokopp
2007 - Isaac Ostlund

2001 - James Gleason

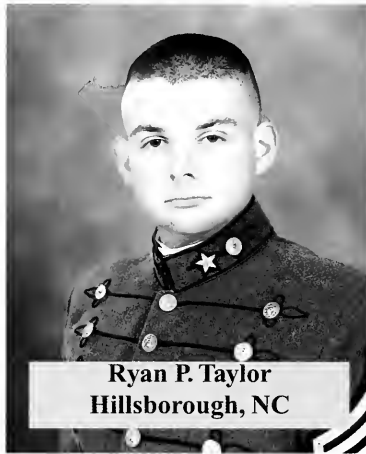
2001 - Tillman Bowling
2007 - Mike Peranski, Pat Melshen





Keith J. Tate
Lake Worth, FL

Navy- Mathematics



Ryan P. Taylor
Hillsborough, NC

Army- Mechanical Engineering



Ryan S. Thiel
Davis, IL

Army- International Studies

"A friend is someone who knows all about you.... and still likes you." I do not remember much from the Ratline, Band trips, or even Ring Figure. What I do remember are my friends. The last four years have sped past with each year marked by distinctive highlights (and, in my case, a few lowlights). But with each year, I have grown to enjoy your company more and more. I guess that's the thing about VMI. I won't miss the lifestyle, the food, the parades, or any part of the System. What I will miss dearly are the lunchtime conversations, the stupid jokes, and the feeling of laughing so hard that it hurt to breathe. I doubt that I will ever belong to a closer circle of friends in my lifetime. And while it saddens me to know that our time together is ending, I will always smile whenever I think back of you guys. To Justin, Gordie, Joe, Bryan, and Dennis: People like you make the VMI Experience what it is.

"I have no doubt deserved my enemies, but I don't believe I deserved my friends." ~ Walt Whitman

The past four years have come and gone; man have we all changed. From the good old days of STP when Cuban B had his laundry stolen at KFC to recent events such as falling from the front door of the Palms; everything worked itself out in some sick and twisted way. The past couple of years have been some of the best and worst times of my life. However these years have formed lifelong friendships among the remaining members of CLUB 305, and good old Dave. So to Thiel and Rostorfer, nothing will beat the times that we had here. From getting number 4s as Rats, the drunken fiascos third class year, to the non-stop drinking second class year, and the ultimate "real" college room first class year. I still can't believe all the dumb ass stuff we have done: icy hot, stun guns, etc. Dave, always remember the days of Spring FTN and how horrible you felt in the mornings and the late nights with the "light". You may hate the "light", but it forgives you. To my rat: Matt, keep the dyke line going and make me proud. Stay out of trouble and find humor in the day to day crap here as your uncle dykes and I have over these long 4 years.

Jazz Band 4,3,2,1; Drum Major (Pipe Band) 1

Plt & Master Sgt-2nd, Plt Lt-1st; Tau Beta Pi 1,2
; Omicron Delta Kappa 1,2; Phi Kappa Phi 1,2;
Deans List 1,2,3; Who's Who; RDC

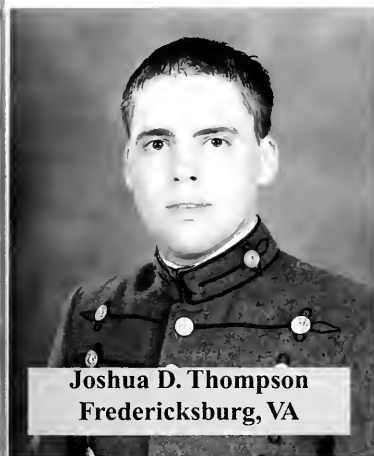
2001 - Steven Wiegel
2007 - Patrick McGill



142 First Class

2001 - Charlie Chang, Chuck Noll,
Rich Kennedy
2007 - Matt Shea, Stephen Combs

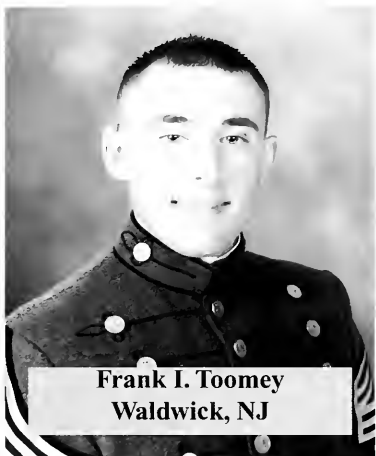




Joshua D. Thompson
Fredericksburg, VA

"Little T"

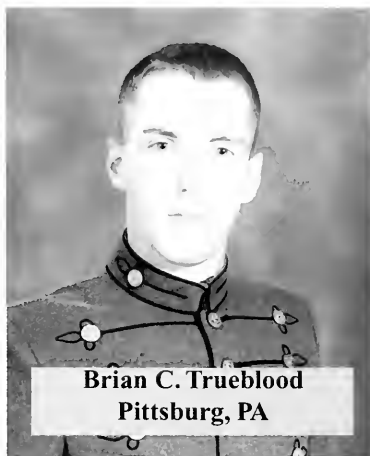
Army - Economics



Frank I. Toomey
Waldwick, NJ

"Dirty Jersey, Jersey, Possum Faced, The Brat"

Army - History



Brian C. Trueblood
Pittsburg, PA

Marine Corps - History

Ever since I can remember, I have followed my brother's footsteps, stride for stride. When the time came for college, we had grown apart and I wanted nothing to do with him or VMI. For me the decision was hard, for my mom it was simple, in the end VMI was the right place for me. I thank my mom for filling out my application, driving 6 hours just to see me, supporting me through the good times and bad, and understanding me even when I doubted her. I thank Larry for being there every step of the way. You mean more to me than my father ever could. Thanks for being a dad. To my brother, I want to say without VMI I don't know where we would be. I have followed you this far, now I must find my own path. You will always be my brother, which is something I won't forget. Grandma and Grandpa Thanks for the countless letters, they kept on coming even though I wasn't the best pen pal. I love you both. For all of my roommates it's been fun and I won't forget any of you: Ben-Hur, the Asian Sensation, Tyler Durden, Clutch, Little Tony, Oven-Top, Travis, Jesse, Steve-o, Gregory, Richard, Graham, Kenny, and Nerkle. You all have made VMI more enjoyable. From late night movies, force marches, spring break, selling ads, stealing my food, DJ Ray, all the way to making fun of me. To Colleen, I wish I found you earlier and treated you right from the start. You're a wonderful person and deserve the best, so never take anything less. I thank you for being my best friend and showing me love. You make it easier for me to say that I don't regret coming to VMI and give me an excuse to come back. You help bring out the best in me. ... Thanks. To my classmates and friends good luck! "Sometimes things that last forever, take forever" - Garth Brooks

NCAA Swimming: 1,3,4; Club Soccer: 1,3;
Cadet Battery: 1,2; Timmons Gentry Society:
2,3; Dean's List 1,2; Cadet Newspaper: 1

Naturalist, Oceanographer, War Historian. These are just a few of the many titles held by the one and only Frank Toomey. Rising like a phoenix from his early days in academia, Frank has evolved into the latter day First Class scholar. Of course, when you study such subjects as single player action games and internet browsing, what do you expect? Also a star in the military field, Frank has become notorious for his ability to max his PT tests, while relying on a diet of Domino's pizza and lack of physical training. They must do things different up there in the Nazi North.

While he may come across as highly unsympathetic to anyone, get a few drinks in him and you'll see his true colors. He's a rather sentimental man, always ready to share a tear and a beer. Or just pass out in a hotel parking lot. "Tim, you need to pull over." "Let's leave him guys, the locals can use him as a foot stool".

Frank's domineering personality may lead you to question a slight bit of Napoleon syndrome. However, he's just a short overachiever. Light and lively, this modern day Patton has a lack of political correctness that will probably lead him to some sort of conviction in the future. "If you don't see it my way, well then [*** off]" Well Frank, we do see things your way. We all know you love and respect your mother so much. We love her too.

You can always leave it to Frank to question authority (and God, you soulless Catholic) and find ways to skirt responsibility. He's just saving it for the next great war, which will probably find its roots somewhere near Frank. Yes, this Possum faced man, full of machismo and low to the ground, will probably one day be noted for a massacre, just because he could. We love you Frank. We love your mother even more, but we do love you. Just stay away from

VMI Ice Hockey: 4,3,2,1 (Team Captain). VMI Newspaper: 3,2. VMI Ranker: 2,1. Rat Challenge: 1. Domino's Customer of the Year: 4,3,2,1. Shaft Miner: 1. VMI Air Assault Member: 2. HNT Charter Member.

It's hard to characterize someone you've spent day in and day out with for the better part of three and a half years. From the guy that will always be remembered in the eyes of Studio 54 as picking fights with 9 year olds, or anybody for that matter, and his ability to beat the odds by keeping an amazing girl all the way through VMI. The rag-tag rough necked Marine that everyone has come to know over the last four years is Blood in a nutshell. But there is always more to a man than the outside. And for those of us who've had the opportunity to discover the other, we are forever fortunate. Coming from entirely different backgrounds meeting Blood was like a slap in the face, he put in my place, and showed me what the world was really like when you had to earn things for yourself. And so I leave him, the members of the Triangle of Terror, and Studio 54 reluctantly, but also knowing that this won't be our final meeting. Blood, thanks for everything. "This is Pappy-Trueblood driving this hog." -JHR

Semper Fi Society 1,2,3,4 Semper Fi Society
President 1, Cpl 3, Sgt 2, Triangle of Terror
1,2,3,4

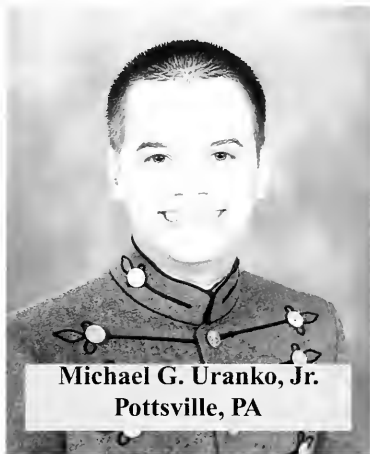
2001 - John McGrady, Jason Gleason,
Campbell Cane
2007 - Brack Harrell, Robert Thompson

2007 - Jeff "Where's the Tissues"
Dudas, Dave Williams

2001 - Frank McCabe
2007 - Josh Christian and John Lento



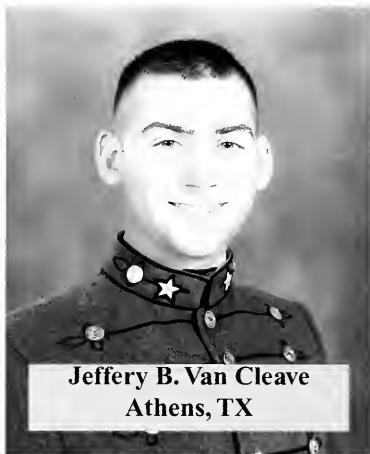
BETTER WOMEN ARE MADE V.M.I. MEN WILL MAKE



Michael G. Uranko, Jr.
Pottsville, PA

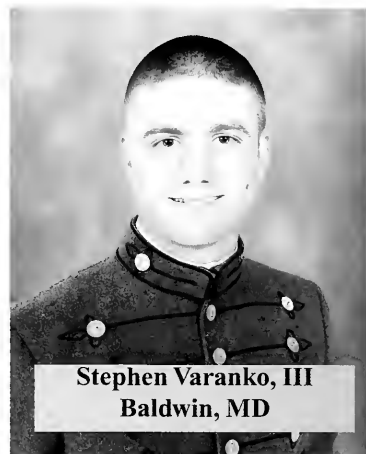
"Mick, Mang"

Army - Civil Engineering



Jeffery B. Van Cleave
Athens, TX

Army- International Studies



Stephen Varanko, III
Baldwin, MD

Navy- History

The last four years at VMI have been the hardest years of my entire life. When I first heard about VMI in my senior year of high school, I had no idea where or what it was, until I listened to Second classmen Chris Butera. Without Chris I would have never made the decision to come to VMI, and I will never regret it. During my Rat year Chris became my dyke and helped me survive the Rat Line. I can not count the number of times that I wanted to go home and quit, but I did not want to let Chris down. VMI has taught me so many life lessons that I will carry with me for the rest of my life.

I would first like to thank my dyke Chris Butera, and my Brother Rats that helped me get through the Rat Line. Second, I want to thank my mom and dad for supporting me, sending me care packages, driving 300 miles to come see me, encouraging me, believing in me, and telling me every time you got off the phone that you were proud of me. Next I want to give a shout out to my roommates Mike, Josh, and Mike for the unforgettable memories of our last year in hell together. I will always remember, DJ Ray, New Years Eve, Yuengling Brewery Tour, New Boston to Frackville force march, Estelle, Lost Keys, Inside-outside, Selling hopes and dreams, Have a Nice Day Café, Do something with me PLEASE, Bells, whistles sirens, Fireworks, Clemson trip, Earthquake test, Gregory's Office, How to get out of the Army, and our entire year together. Finally I want to dedicate my entire cadetship and graduation to my Grandfather Grant E. Uranko that passed away last year. I know you will be looking down at graduation with a huge smile, and I will never forget you. Good luck to my Rats Joe and Jesse. Remember never give up the opportunity to give someone else sh**.

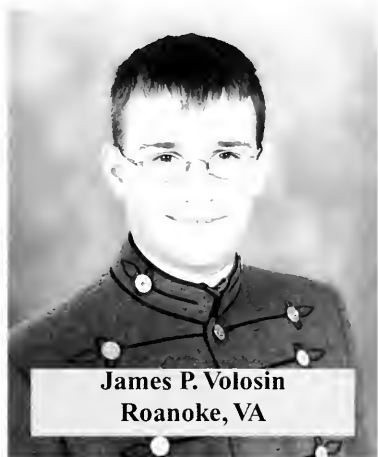
Club Soccer 4,3,2,1; Rank 3,2; Cadet Newspaper 1





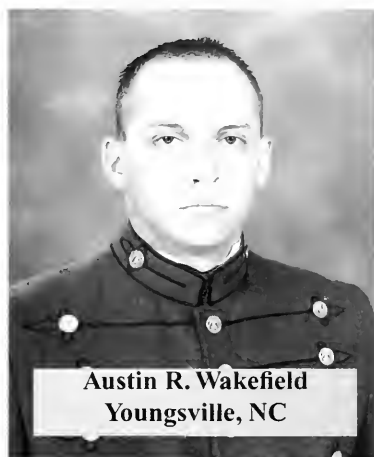
Matthew S. Vogel
Chesapeake, VA

Air Force - History



James P. Volosin
Roanoke, VA

*"Jimmy V or Vo"
Navy - History*



Austin R. Wakefield
Youngsville, NC

*"Tim"
Army - History*

There is no easy shortcut to success, if you want to reach the promised land you have to go through the wilderness." The sky is the limit and my limits are endless, hard work uncovers dreams....

It's been four years since I came through the arch for the first time. In these four years I have met people I will never forget, made friends that I will always remember and keep in touch with, and experienced things that no one on the outside will or would understand. This place has changed me, probably for the best, and I know I will probably miss it when I leave here, give or take a few years. I definitely have to give credit to my roommates for the last three years Drew and Keith, times at Jimmy V's, tailgating, corps trips, and all the other times. It's been interesting but I'm outta here.

Well, that's it. That's all she wrote. I'm done. I'm outta here. Wait a minute, I forgot. I've still got another year. Anyway, these past four years were quite an experience. As I look back I can say it's been fun. Well most of the fun happened while away from VMI. I'll always remember the nights sitting around shooting the bull when I should have been doing homework. But, you know what they say, "Hard work pays off in the future, laziness pays off now." This place has taught me a lot. First, it's best to write a paper an hour before it's due. Second, most things that you get all worked up over, really aren't worth getting all worked up over. Third, VMI is what you make of it. When that day comes that VMI decides they've had enough of me and gives me a diploma just to get me out of here, I will look back knowing I made the best of my time at the 1. To all my friends at VMI, Geoff, Brandon, Eric, Sean, and the other two or three whose names I can't remember. You know how I am remembering names. Steve Walker, quit calling me Tim, you're the only one that still does that. I want to thank y'all for all the good times and for laughing at some of my bad jokes. Hey, they were funny to me. To my Rats, believe it or not I have learned from you guys. I hope I've taught you a thing or two, even if it was a lesson in what not to do. I'm pretty sure nobody is still reading this except for my parents, who I really owe a lot to. Well that's pretty much it. If any brother rats from '04 happen to be back in barracks next year, look me up, I'll be in the concourse. See y'all next year.

Cross Country 4,3,2,1

Ranger Company 4,3; Timmins-Gentry 4,3,2;
NCMT 1

Track and field: 1, 2, 3, 4

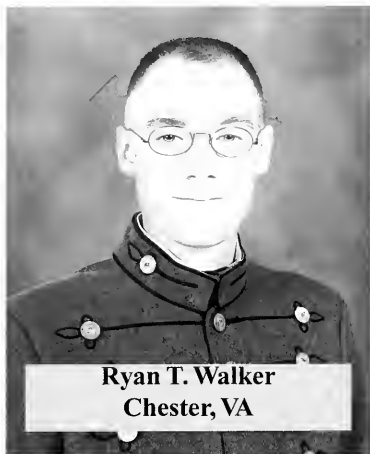


*2001 - Dan Campbell
2007 - Ben Saffrit, Chris Waddell*

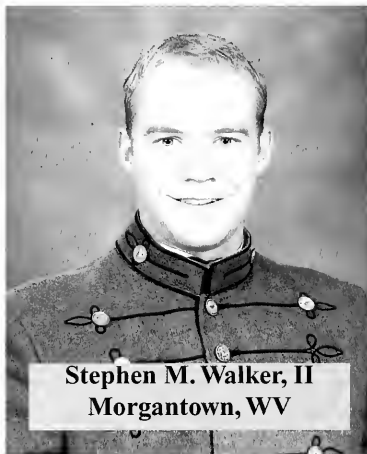


*2001 - Phill Weismiller
2007 - Jose Lopez, Cliff Streagle*

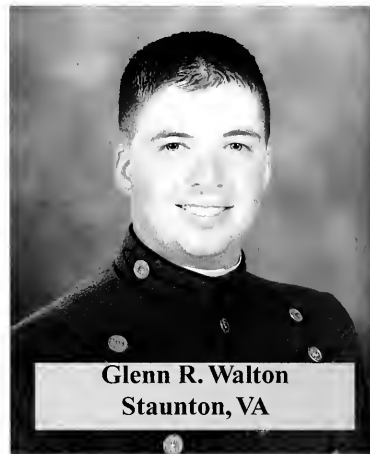




Ryan T. Walker
Chester, VA



Stephen M. Walker, II
Morgantown, WV



Glenn R. Walton
Staunton, VA

Army - Business and Economics

"Crittter"

Army - History

Air Force - International Studies

First and foremost I would like to thank Becca for putting up with all the bull that came with me going to VMI... don't know how you did it, but hopefully I can make it up to you. Second I would like to thank my family for all their support. I came to VMI in the summer of 2000 with the knowledge that I could make it all 4yrs. and with the knowledge of what I wanted to do after VMI. Now that my journey is almost complete I have confirmed these two things and learned a valuable lesson about life. I learned that what is important to me in life is my fiancé Becca, my family, my friends, and my determination to make something of myself. To my rat Brian Welch I say these few things; never give up on yourself, never stop dreaming, don't let the little things get to you, look past three o'clock, cherish your friends and family, and remember that some of the best leaders lead first from the back.

First and foremost, way above anything else, I'd like to think my parents from the bottom of my heart. Their love, dedication, and support were the only constant things throughout my four years at VMI. They put up with a lot of my bullsh**, which is some of the best around, and always had faith that I would succeed, even if sometimes I didn't. Special thanks to the unbelievable roommates and friends I've made along the way. Russ, Flemming, Biff, Mic, G-unit from back in the day, and now Keck. Great guys living, laughing, and drinking together. To the LN crew...jeez, I really can't say much about that, but I'm pretty sure my nose still hurts. OUT

I can't think of how many people said this couldn't happen. It's been a long, strange four years, and I certainly didn't expect things to turn out this way. From 471 to 176, it really has been a great time. There have been a lot of roommates who have had to put up with me, and a lot of friends I could never forget. Lakin, you never gave up on me. It really is a shame Dirty can't be here now. JB- we've always got Myrtle, Charlotte, and illegal fireworks. To the fellas of 176: I couldn't have ever been stuck with anyone better. Andy: watch out for the bushes, karaoke, and former Miss Americas. Ed... sleeping close to nightstands would probably be ill advised; good luck on the boats. To the rats: stick to it. For all the days you'll hate it, I promise it's worth it. For all of those who believed in me, thank you. Amy, this never would have been possible without you. I love you, and I can't wait until August.

Some days you'll look back at these last four years and wonder how they've gone by so quickly. You see the friends no longer in your life, and friends who will be there forever. I can imagine nothing better to leave this place with than those memories. The days will pass ever more quickly, and twenty years from now we will all gather here again, and little will have changed. Until then, let us not forget what these years have given us all.

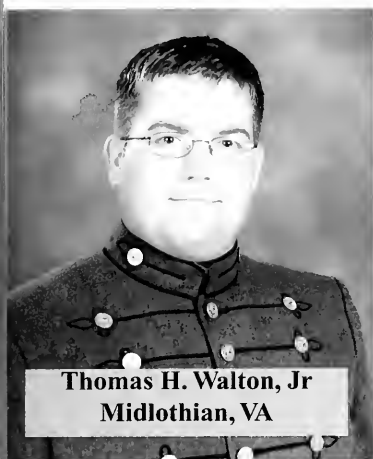
NCAA Cross-Country and Track 00-04 (member of SOCON Champion indoor track team 00-01); Academic Mentor 02-04; Dean's list 6 semesters; Ac. Stars; Cadet librarian assistant 02-04; Member of Sigma Tau Delta; CCS 02-03 National Dean's list; Recipient of Frank A. Liddel Jr. 49B Award for Excellence in Leadership on VMI's Cross-Country team 01 and 02

Rat Challenge High Ropes CIC, Captain Intramural Basketball team, Big Red Club

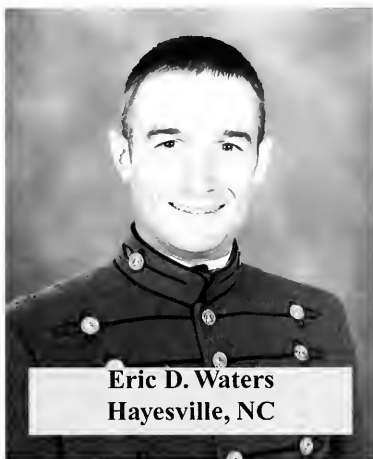
Cpl, 3; CSGT, 2. Newspaper Staff, 4,3,2. Ranger Company, 3. Fencing, 1. Lifeguard, 2. 1 (CIC);



2001- Josh Shiley
2007- Matt "Triple S" Whalon



Thomas H. Walton, Jr
Midlothian, VA



Eric D. Waters
Hayesville, NC



Nadia Wendlandt
Germany

"T-Bone, Big T, Technical Tommy, Luther "
Army - Economics and Business

Air Force- Mechanical Engineering

Air Force- History

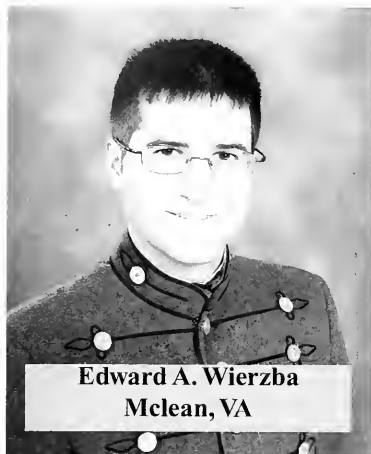
Like a smooth Cadillac, Tommy Walton successfully cruised through the past four years at VMI. Regardless of the circumstances, Tommy met each day with an almost obscene optimism that was largely unmatched at the I. Tommy came to VMI an undersized, unheralded football player and a serious knee injury did not help T-Bone's assimilation into the ratline. However, he learned how to be a solid cadet by dyking in the Frat, under the compassionate tutelage of Charlet. Third class year was marked by Tommy's sometimes contentious but ultimately close relationship with the General, and he managed to spread his infectious jolliness to a host of his other brother rats as well. Ring Figure of that year also brought out the best in Big T as he was not afraid to reveal his outgoing nature to the entire corps of cadets despite the modest protestations of Amanda (No Tommy No!!!). Third class year also marked the beginning of Tommy's legendary status at Kappa Sig where he demonstrated the proper barrel-roll technique as well as how to strategically assault an offering of free drinks. Second class year brought with it Tommy's flirtation with free agency and only slightly broadened his terrible musical taste. Years of hard work paid dividends when as a first classman, T-Bone was finally given the opportunity to demonstrate his considerable skills on the gridiron. His standout performance in front of a hometown crowd in Richmond was the highlight of a solid season. He was not the biggest football player, but as the Jeff Morgan Award acknowledges, he was an inspirational leader both in performance and attitude. We will never forget that on one particular occasion Tommy was more excited by his brother, Andrew's success than by his own performance. Big T, you have been a great role model and an even better friend. We will miss you as you move on to what lies ahead. Brothers for life.

Now that my jail term is finally drawing to a close I get a little nostalgic and a tear comes to my eye. HAAHA please ya'll know that I won't be sad to be leaving this hell hole! FREEDOM at last. I've been waiting for this day for 4 years. Though there have been some good times here. Rob remembers the 26-hour car ride. The deer carcasses in the court yard one Christmas, need I remind you that my accomplices and I put them under the Christmas tree. The many "balling-ups" that the "Terror Squad" and me also known as room 223 and friends partook in. We have quite a few shaved heads on our record. I'm also the only cadet that has received a #1 over a cell phone. I am very proud to say that I along with 2 saber rankers were the first cadets to march PTs my 1st class year. Well this is it I'm done rambling.

Football 4.3.2.1; Cadet Investment Group 2.1;
Dean's List; Omicron Delta Epsilon; Virgin
Private; Frat rat

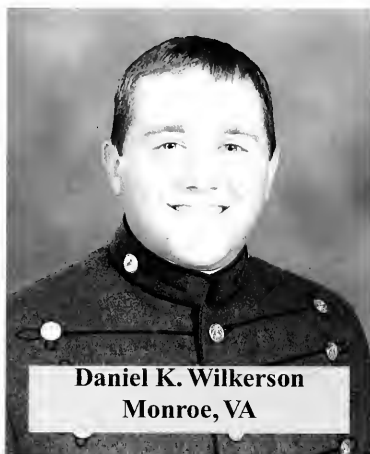
2001 - Will Charlet
2007 - Matt Murrer, Charlie Liesfield





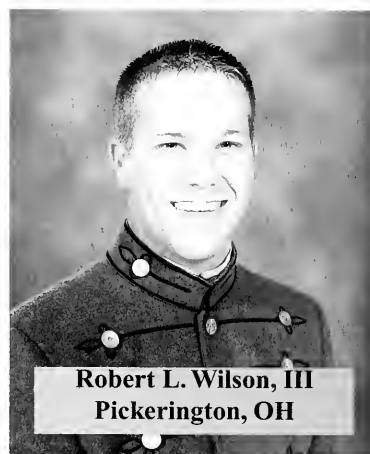
Edward A. Wierzba
McLean, VA

Army- Economics



Daniel K. Wilkerson
Monroe, VA

"Corndog"
Army - Economics



Robert L. Wilson, III
Pickerington, OH

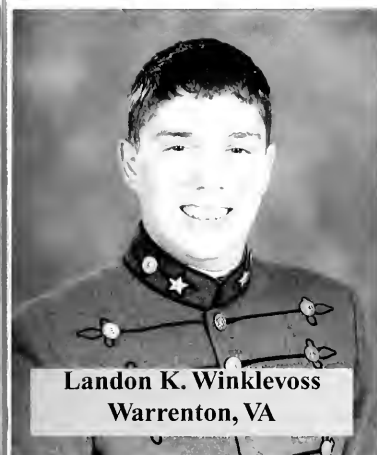
Air Force- Civil Engineering

I've waited for this day since the first day I arrived, but could not have asked for better roommates (Jason and Matt) to make it tolerable. Jason and Matt, you are best friends anyone could ask for. Casey, David, Chad and Sean - your time here will not last long, so keep you heads up. You'll be in this position before you know it. Don't wish your life away, just enjoy the good times and deal with the bad. To my family - thanks for being there for me in times need, coming to the football games, the delicious food, and love to go with it. Thanks for everything.



2001 - Cabell Brockman
2007 - Casey Grey

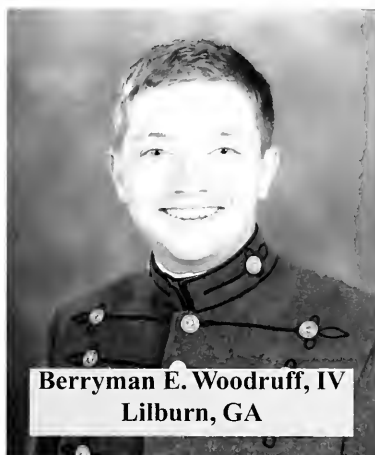




Landon K. Winklevoss
Warrenton, VA

"Wink"

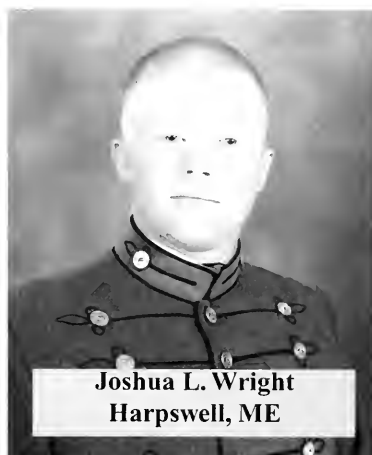
Army - International Studies



Berryman E. Woodruff, IV
Lilburn, GA

"Chipper, Wood-man"

Navy - History



Joshua L. Wright
Harpwell, ME

"Fruit, Lunchbox"

Navy - Electrical Engineering

I hated this school more than anyone. But through all the hate, there were many lessons and good times. To my roommates who I spent all four years of this miserable place with: Jason "Snatch" Dorn and John "BRF*** of the Year" Berg. Jason, tell your mother I said Hello. Sean, congratulations on the break from this place. "I hope this meeting with the Sup going to go quick. I need some sleep." Steveo, Done with LSATs, only one place to go, the Palms. John Davis the creeperster: I'm watching youuuuu. Leroy, grab my pocket h*****. Portler, talk about some sleepless nights and thanks for the stories about the Sup's house. Jerod (J to the B), don't be afraid to let someone touch things that are yours. Buhl, thanks for telling me all about Peter Coors, and you were right. Rolex's keep horrible, horrible time. Damon, or should I say Demosonn; it's French. How about London and all of England, chips and cheese, Muhammed, Jason on the concrete passed out where he belong, Sean breaking up a fight with a road blocker, me trying to get into a bar with street cones. 40 hands anyone? Scoe, the "interesting" stories were always great, Alicia Shures (MVP of the IS Department) thanks for keeping me together and all the help. Braden (Brado), thanks for being the rat I wanted, cloud nine is nice to be here at VMI, stay that way and keep those grades up. I hope I taught you a thing or two. Tim, Go Sox!!! LTC Levenson, sometimes I don't think I would have graduated without you being partially on my side. Remember the first time I took a ride on the L-train. Does "Hey Hollywood" ring a bell. Thanks for the help on many occasions. I had a hunch of awesome. To all of them, I bid you Ado. I am out, thankfully, and on time. I'll miss being on confinement for at least a full two years.

To my 149 co-dykes: Bryan, George, and Jimmy - we made it! I think we all thought twice about this whole endeavor as we were doing cherry pickers in the freezing cold as Eric, Erich, and Vic were leading from inside the warmth of the room. Thanks for being such a huge part of my cadetship.

To Jimmy and Jeff - you guys gave this place a sense of humor. You guys are like the brothers I never had. Jimmy, the rat experience and three years of rooming together have made you like my alter-ego. It's been rough being out of the Deep South, but we miraculously pulled-through. Jeff, from rat roomie to closest friend, I can always count on you to make me laugh, shoot-up a box of ammo, or drain a case of beer. You guys are about the closest friends I've ever had. Thanks for all the memories.

To my rats: Stretch, Evil, Farkas, Laura, Blue, and Ugly - y'all have been so much fun this year! Keep your focus, find yourselves, and someday you'll be in my shoes of trying to figure out how to summarize your four years here into a few hundred words. And please remember, tequila and chocolate milk is NOT a real drink!

To my family - I can't thank y'all for the unconditional love and support. You guys are the reason I stayed sane here. Coming home was always something to look forward to, but the good times I had with you only made coming back harder. A special thanks to my dad, whose pep talks have never failed to motivate and inspire. If I turn-out to be half as good a stick-and-rudder man as you, I know I'll be the best in the biz. I can't thank y'all enough. I love you. So there it is, four years of my life here at the Institute and all I have to show for it is a big damn ring, a diploma, the greatest friends in the world, and the best times of my life.

Pipes & Drums: 4,3,2,1; Cadre: 3; Rank: 3,2;
Dean's List: 2,1

To sum up my high school experience, I created a page of quotes from my favorite bands that meshed well with my life up to that point. A look back at this list showed that a few of the quotes still described my feelings on the life I've lived at VMI. "We go out in the world and take our chances. Fate is just the weight of circumstances." - Rush. "I can't complain, but sometimes I still do." And "I'll keep on going. I guess I'll never know why. Life's been good to me so far." - Joe Walsh. "What am I gonna do. I'm gonna. Ride on" - AC DC

I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all those that have made life here at the Institute possible. To my loving parents, doting sisters, wonderful girlfriend and of course the support of my extended family; thank you so much. To my friends, acquaintances, and professors; thanks for all the good times. With a special thanks to the roommates who will always be welcome in my life.

Rat Challenge 2,3; NCMT 3; Pipe Band 1,2,3;
Band Company Guidoon 4

2001 - Parker Reeves
2007 - Braden Orr

2001 - Eric Ham
2007 - Bryant "Stretch" Martin and
Andrew "Evil" Timprer

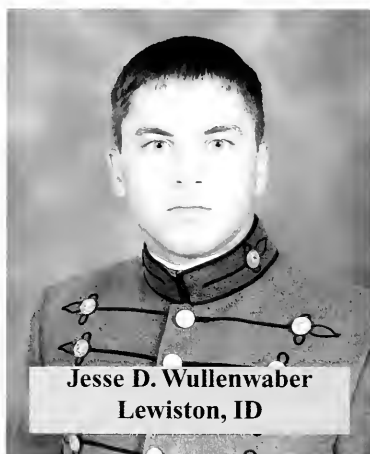
2001 - John Pettry, Ryan Welsh
2007 - Wes Hopkins and Steve Sykes





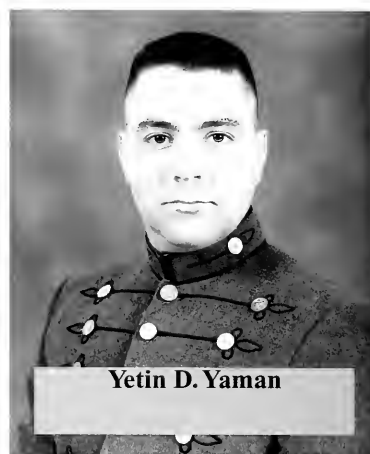
Jen-You Wu
Washington, DC

Air Force- Computer Science



Jesse D. Wullenwaber
Lewiston, ID

Army- Civil Engineering



Yetin D. Yaman

Marine Corps - Major

Why did you come to VMI? I've been asked this question for thousand times but I didn't have the answer until the moment right before I graduate from VMI. The answer I got was always at the arch that I walked through everyday. "You may be whatever you resolve to be.--by Stonewall Jackson." I am so glad that I could make it to graduate, actually learn things and meet my brother rats at VMI. This place and everyone around it were the most important factors to arise us each other. Everyday I could learn new things and sometimes teach things that people don't know and would like to know. Where would I be if I didn't come to VMI? I wouldn't think about this question since VMI gave me so much. Finally, I'd like to say thank you to my dyke and my rat. Both of you educated me and I appreciate it. Almost forgot my roommates, thanks for you guys to teach me so much about American culture and broaden my viewpoint outside VMI. God bless VMI.

The Institute is in a downward spiral, bending to the liberal ways of today's world. The ratline is not being enforced as it should be, and the rats are being cheated of things which they don't even know about. The rats are getting a good education and are under a strict honor code, but they aren't learning the intangible things that are learned through the sweat and pain of a proper ratline. I hope this is just a slump for the Institute, and that it will return to the way it should be.

If I knew how VMI was falling apart, before I came here, I probably wouldn't have come. Since I can't undo the past, I am glad that I have met a few people here, my real BR's, who realize how VMI and its leaders are becoming more and more liberal. It is a shame that most of these people, my real BR's - who despise the liberalization of VMI - have been shunned by the administration and replaced with cadets who blindly adhere to the administration's wishes. The handful of true friends I have here have made these last four years bearable, amid the lies of the administration and the disappointment of witnessing the deterioration of the Institute. I cannot express how grateful I am for all of them, my true friends, my real BR's.

Eric, walk the straight line, and keep faith. Find the men here who know what this school is all about. They will help make the worst times here the best.

I came, I saw, I graduated

1st Cpl, 2nd Plt. Sgt., Private, RDC

Semper Fi Society, Rat year, 3rd, 2nd, and 1st class year

2001 Chi- Wei Lin
2007 Shien- Juin Lin



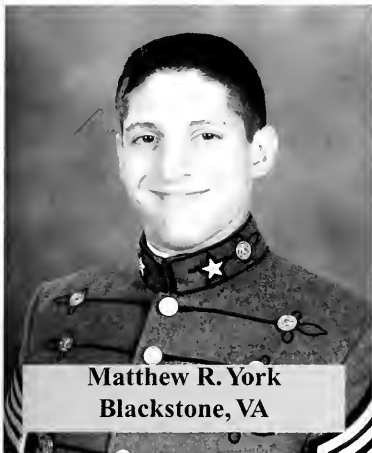
150 First Class

2001 - Dave Dewey
2007 - Eric Dupilka



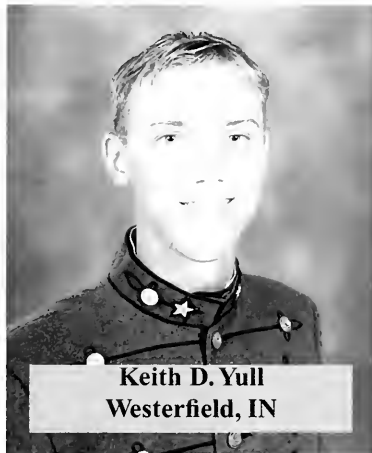
2001 - Michael Butterfield





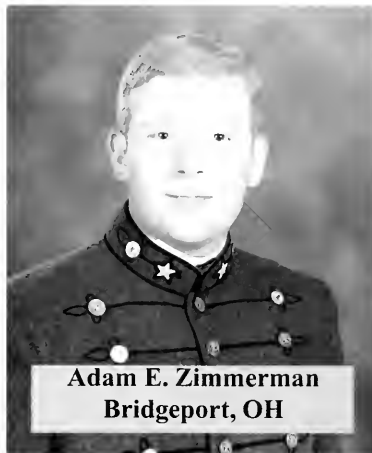
Matthew R. York
Blackstone, VA

Army - Electrical Engineering



Keith D. Yull
Westerfield, IN

Navy - International Studies



Adam E. Zimmerman
Bridgeport, OH

"Fire Crotch, Zimm, Zimmerf@"
Army - Civil Engineering*

I would like to thank my parents for the support, my brother rats for the memories, and Hotel Company for the belligerence. It's been a long road, but I wouldn't trade the memories for anything.

I didn't know what quite to expect when I first came to VMI. Nothing can truly prepare you for the difficulties and pressures one experiences here and it is truly something that cannot really be described, just experienced. Looking back, I wouldn't trade the good times nor the bad ones. I have met the best friends of my life here and will remember all that we did together. In the end, even though I might not want to admit it, I think that I will look back and enjoy the time that I spent here.

Adam has always been kind of a bully. While carrying on like the elusive Panda, Adam appears all soft and cuddly until he beats you to death with your own rack. His ability to change from friendly to vengeful lies in his severe fear of homosexuality. Many of his roommates and friends have crawled in his rack, gave him a pat on the ass, or flick him in the flames, only to be pinned to the floor like a whimpering dog.

However, his size has a weakness. Like the famed Achilles, Adam has a secret misfortune. He is as night blind as a bat. Performing like Helen Keller, Adam could be seen on his nightly trip to the pisser, counting the steps and doors until he reached his destination. That is of course until he muscunts and smacks into a pillar. Or until his roommates pull out the drawers, stack chairs in his path, and laugh violently at his misfortune. A lot of dull nights have been brightened by his night-blind antics.

Of all the characters here at VMI, it can be said that Adam is truly a friend and a gentleman. Many a night, Adam spent his study time listening to his buddies problems, or putting their drunken asses in bed. He was always there for his friends, and for his BRs. Though our paths may be long and forking, you will always be in our minds and hearts. Adam, we will truly miss you. - Tim Price

I just want to thank everyone who was there for me when I needed them the most. I often wondered why I ever came to VMI but now that our time here is coming to an end I thank god that he placed VMI in my path. Rat ties remember it is never as bad as it seems and it will all be over before you know it, so no matter what happens just stick it out, lean on your BRs and keep your head up.

Ranger Co: 4; VMI Ice Hockey: 4,3,2,1.
Academic Mentor: 2; Dean's List: 4,3,2,1;
Alcohol Safety Officer of the Watch: 4,3,2,1;
Great Friend: 4,3,2,1

Hotel Company Commander 1; Rat Challenge ACIC 1; Hotel 1st Sergeant 2; Hotel Rat Challenge Sergeant 2; Hotel S-2 Sergeant 2; Academic Mentor 2; Company Clerk 3; Hotel Rat Challenge Corporal; Dean's List 1,2,3.

Wrestling: 3,4 Dean's list: 1,2,3,4

*2001 - Jeff Kuehnē
2007 - Grant Pfeiffer, Jehan Keitt*

*2001 - Mike Butterfield
2007 - Aaron Kerkhof, Scott Lutterbie*

*2001 - Jim Morroe
2007 - Dustin Schultz*



FIRST CLASS PARTY

Other than Rob Wilson getting jacked by a second, the First Class Party was a complete success. We would all like to thank Ross Garnett for planning, making sure that the kegs stayed full, at least until nine, and keeping everyone relatively safe. We would also like to thank Rob Metz for his pyrotechnic display. Most importantly, though, we want to thank Joe Montagna: you were to the First Class Party what Chris Richman was to Ring Figure.



Above Left: Ray L'Heureux eases ahead of Joe Montagna in the Keg Race. **Above Right:** Joe showing he has the making of a Keydet football player.



AT ZOLLOMAN'S



Above: Guns and alcohol - a winning combination.



Left: In the Mother Country we do not have beer, only vodka.
Above: Josh Montero demonstrates his "doughnutting ability" and pops a tire.

THE CLASS OF 2005



There are four milestones in the life of every cadet – Matriculation, Breakout, Ring Figure, and Graduation. These events mark changing points in our lives as cadets. From Matriculation to Breakout, we were transformed not only into new individuals but into a larger entity, the class of 2005. As a class, we have come far, dealing with many obstacles from brother rats leaving to unfair treatment from the administration to an ongoing list of complaints. Among all the trials and tribulations that have arisen through our cadetships, one thing stands out – the brother rat spirit that bonds us all together as one that will overcome anything we will face at VML. As a class we do, and will, continue to reach new heights.

As the class of 2005 came back into the walls of barracks for yet another year of trials, we had our sights set on the pinnacle event of second-class year, Ring Figure. This event was our main focus and the entire class endured what seemed like endless meetings, formations, and e-mails before we received our rings. We faced adversity when we tried to reserve the old corps white blouse as our uniform for the ball and we together as a class united as one toward a common goal and succeeded. The weekend was a time of great celebration, bonding, and reflection of our growth as individuals and as a class, and a time to come together to look forward to the future. Most importantly we entered into a life long union, the brotherhood of the ring. Taking a close look at our ring and the many events represented on it allows for a fierce sense of pride in our mutual accomplishments while only reminding of the successes that we have yet to attain.

The 2nd Class played a large role in the success of the '04+3 Ratline, as the cadre sergeants acquitted themselves well as the primary drill instructors to the new Rat mass. This year's Ratline taught us many lessons as it brings us one step closer to running the Corps ourselves next year. We are strong and will do great things that will be talked about for years to come. This year has been a great opportunity for us to grow and develop a plan for what we want to accomplish next year. We have goals and a vision to pursue for the execution of the '05+3 ratline, for our rats. We will succeed in all of our endeavors...not because of one person or a group of people but because our class will unite under a common goal and strive for quality and perfection. Many in the Class of 2005 have stepped up as strong leaders in the Corps, learning important lessons and gaining valuable experience that will allow our class to lead the Corps with success next year, our first class year. Great things are to come.

In the Bonds,
Robert J. Oaks, President, Class of 2005
Benjamin R. King, Vice President, Class of 2005
Ian G. Dunlap, Historian, Class of 2005



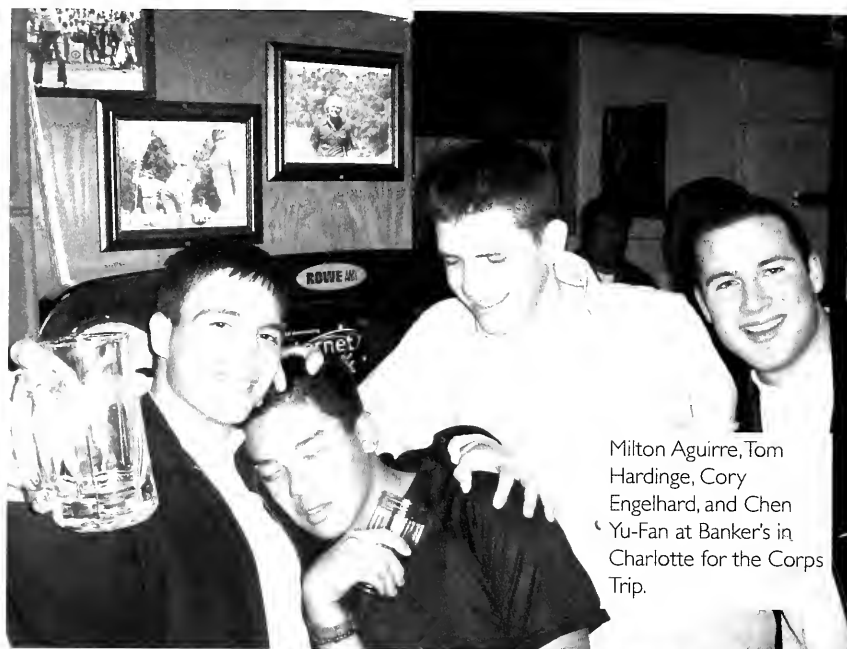
Justin Abbinante



Matthew Acors



Milton Aguirre



Milton Aguirre, Tom Harding, Cory Engelhard, and Chen Yu-Fan at Banker's in Charlotte for the Corps Trip.

Katherine Aldrich
Timothy Allmond
Douglas Aloisio
Colin Alstad
Jose Amaral
Ryan Anderson



William Angle
Zane Angle
Gabriela Arraiz
Rebecca Baas
John Baber
K. Banchusuwan



Robert Barbaree
John Beall
David Beehler
Lael Bellotti
Preston Beverly
Charles Blake



Victor Bockman
Roland Bodenheim
Anthony Boone
Lance Bourassa
Brian Bowman
Alexander Boykin





Garrett Breckner

Paul Bryan
Steven Bryan
William Bryant
William Butt



Austin Cam
Gregory Carlson
David Carroll
Hao-Po Chang
Albert Chatwood
Aaron Childers



Jonathan Cirillo
Kyle Clark
Ryan Clemens
Adam Clift
Anthony Cochet
Jeremy Coffman



John Coleman
Scarlett Collins
Mark Conley
Allen Coones
Kenneth Cooper
Mildred Cooper



Happy 21st birthday Messrs. Stokes.

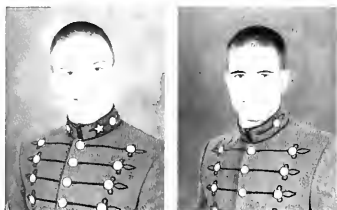


Jonathan Corrado
Boyd Correll

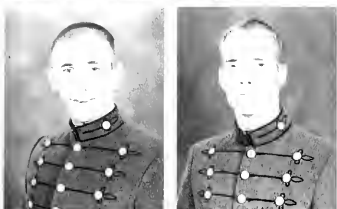
Steven Cunningham
Jeffrey DeMara

Anthony DeMarco
Ty Denby

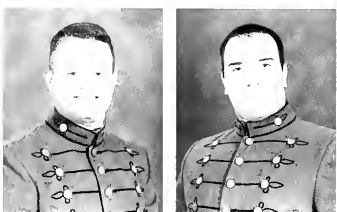
William DeShazor
Jason Devine



Sean Dixon
Douglas Dobbins



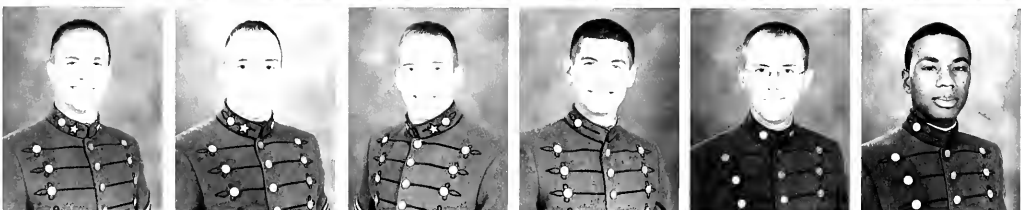
Matthew Dowdy
Matthew Dowler



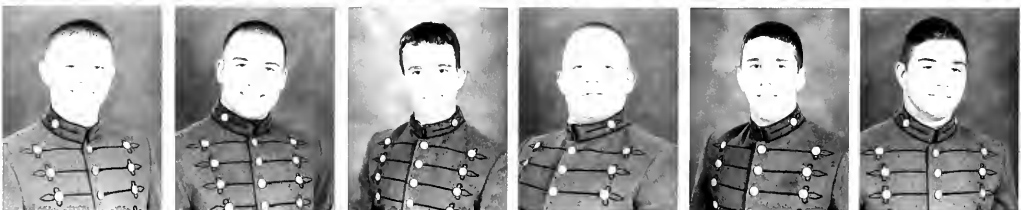
Jason Downs
Peter Dreisbach
James Driggs
Jarred Drown
Michael Duerr
Brian Duncan



Ian Dunlap
Alexander Dunoye
Jeffrey Durham
Matthew Dussia
Franklin Dyson
Roman Edmunds

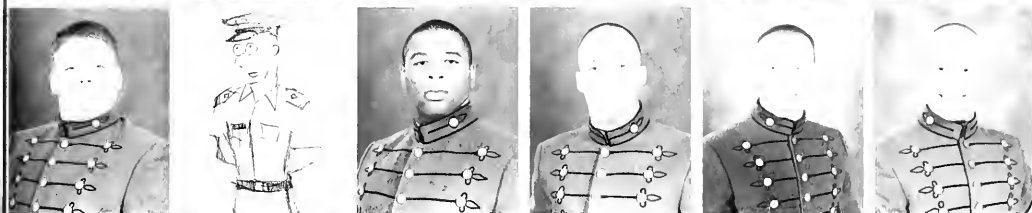


Charles Ehnott
Cory Engelhard
Elliott Erbe
Justin Fallin
Edward Farrell
James Favareau

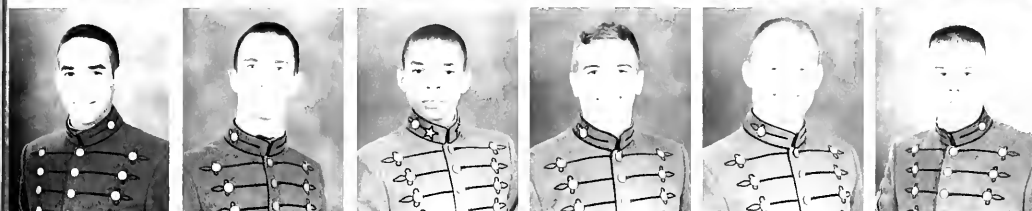




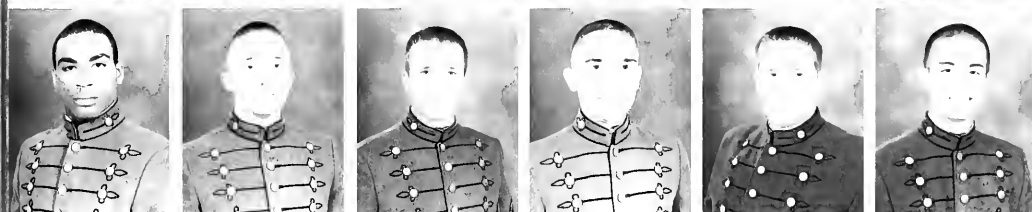
Charles Feazelle
Brandon Fellers
Thomas Ferrara
Daniel Fields
John Fisher
Brian Fitzgerald



Ian Foley
Timothy Foran
Vicheal Foxx
Adam Frick
Gerrid Gall
Erik Gallmann



Loren Gernandt
Robert Gibson
Aaron Gleaton
Adam Gochenour
Andrew Gordon
Brian Gorski



Titus Green
Cody Grey
Preston Griffith
Felix Guerra
Christopher Guin
Brandon Haenny



Henry Hak
William Hamilton
Brandon Hancy
Daniel Hansen
Thomas Hardinge
Christopher Hardy



Justin Harris
Daniel Harrison
Brett Havelka
James Hayes
Conor Heely
Eric Heese



Edward Henderson
Terrence Henderson
Matthew Hendricks
Benjamin Hobbs
Matthew Hook
Travis Hord



Austin House
Eric Huggard
Amit Hull
Mark Iannatuono
John Ikner
Anthony Iliadis



Jim White balled up in the
New Barracks courtyard.



Thomas Innes
Kyle Isaacs
Wei-Han Jeng



Nathan Johnson
Peter Johnson
Samuel Johnson



Timothy Johnson
Alan Jones

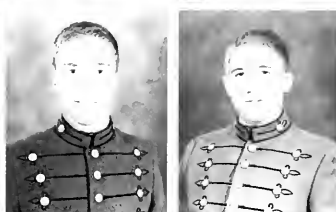




Kevin Jones
Paul Julian
Eric Kaltrider

Andrew Karnes
Kurt Karpov
Maciek Kepka

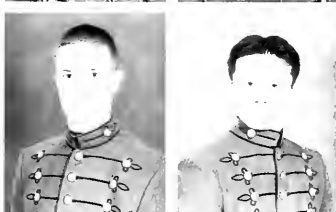
Benjamin King
Ryan King
James Kingsley



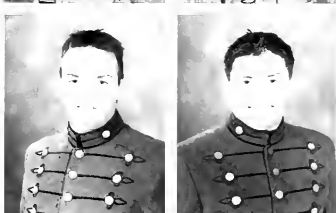
John Kite
Peter Knowles
Andrew Kochli
Scott Kreckman
Jeffrey Krug
Peter Kubesh



Mathew Kurz
Paul Kuwik
Daniel Kwon
Jeffrey Lange
John Langowsky
Thomas Largi

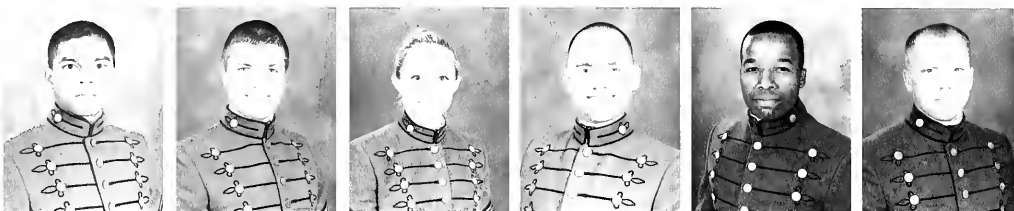


John Leacock
Won Lee
Mark Lenzi
Zachary Lewis
Hsin-Yu, Lin
Richard Litwin

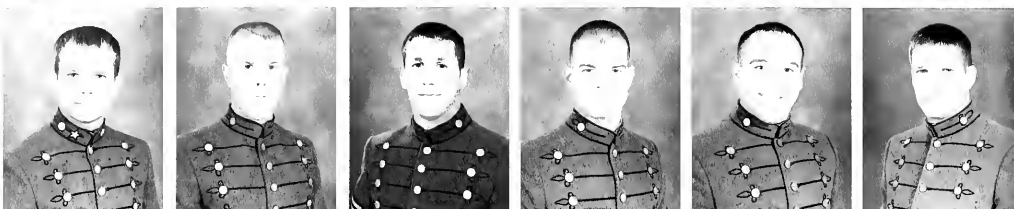


Matthew Lloyd
Eric Lockard
Joshua Lyles
Henry Lynch
Marc Lyons
Douglas Macdonald

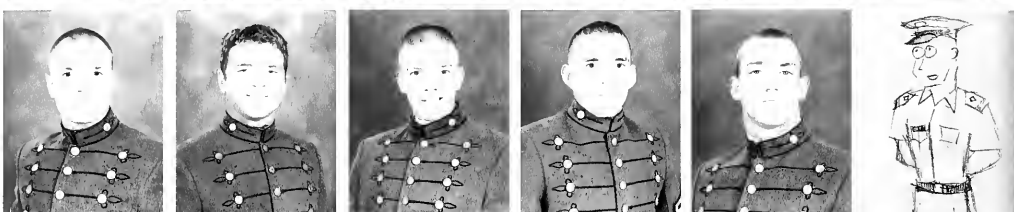
Shushil Machhi
Scott Maciejewski
Laura Mack
Thomas Manley
Logan Manning
Sean Matson



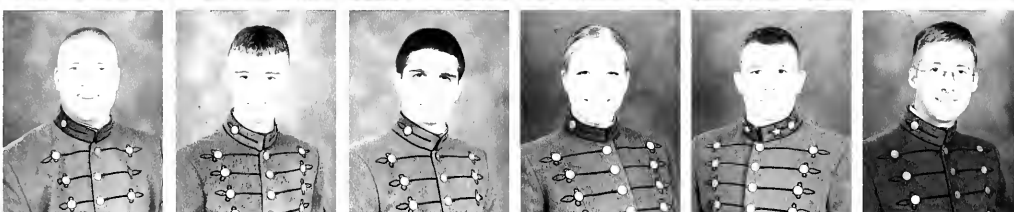
Gabriel McCaig
Preston McFaddin
Shannon Meehan
George Melton
Paul Mercer
Sambor Mielnik



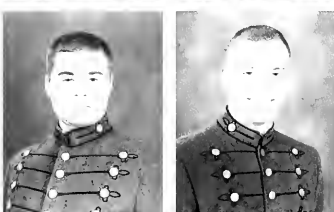
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Bradley Miller
Jordan Mills
Lucas Moore
Sean Moore
John Morgan



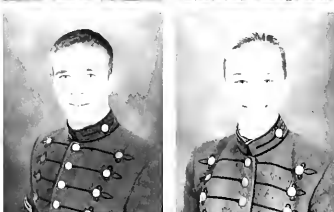
Reese Morris
Christopher Muller
Ryan Murphy
Emily Naslund
Saul Newsome
William Nickels



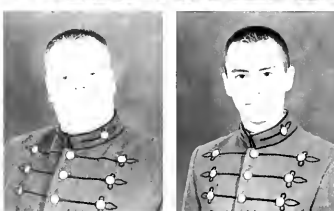
Adam Noelte
Brian Nooney



Matthew Noreus
Amie-Anne Novak



Robert Oaks
Rory Opanasets





Robert Page
 Brian Park
 Seth Parker
 Michael Parsons
 Alexander Paul
 William Paulette



Maury Pauling
 William Pearl



Daniel Pearsall
 Marco Perez



Christopher Perry
 Thomas Petykowski



Lev Pobirski
 Allen Porter
 Jonathan Prible
 Jordan Prior
 Jonathan Proctor
 Joseph Pruce

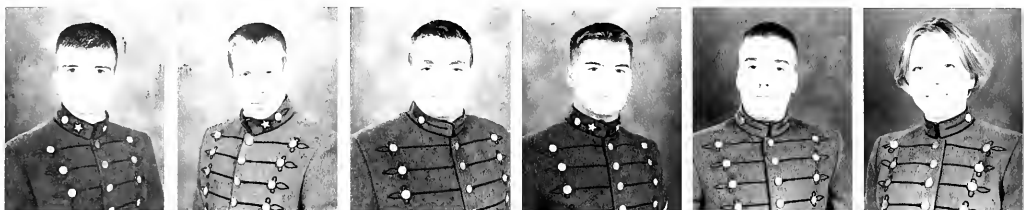


James Ramey
 Derek Rankin
 William Ray
 Pamela Reeves
 Jason Reintz
 John Rerucha

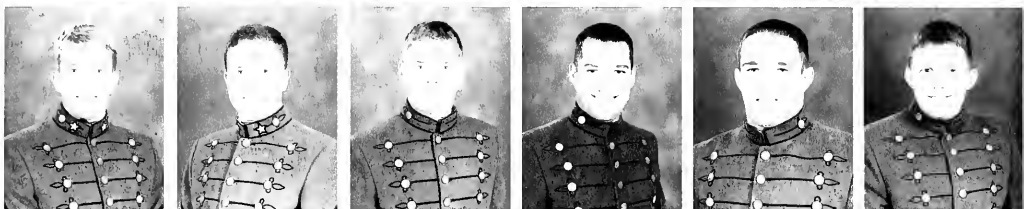


Robert Ricadela
 Timothy Riemann
 Erik Rohrmann
 Joseph Rouleau
 Adam Rouse
 John Sakaleros

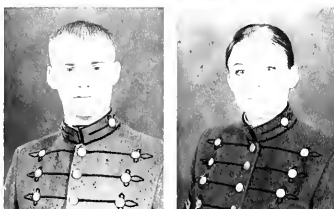
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Stephen Sawyer
Ryan Schelske
Daniel Schreiber
Shelby Sears
Margaret Serig



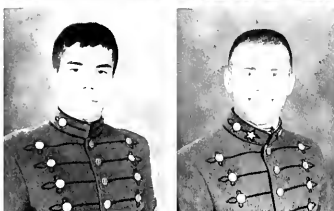
Walter Shakespeare
James Shambley
Phillip Shapiro
Joshua Simulcik
Carlton Smith
Jefferson Smith



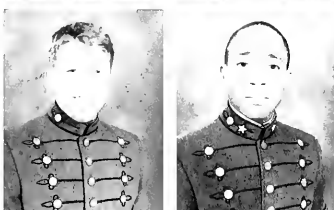
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Margaret Smith
Matthew Smith



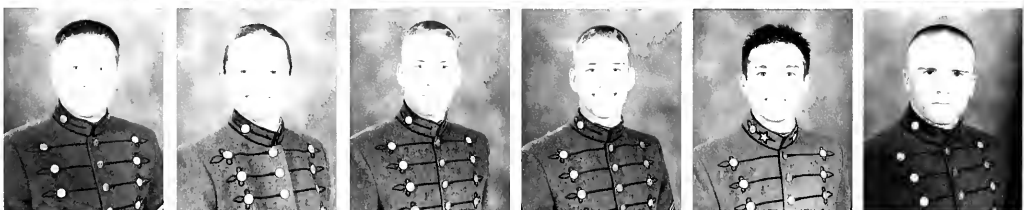
Daniel Spanu
Jeffrey Sparks
Brett St. Peter



Gregory Staat
Jamaal Stafford
Benjamin Stenger



Samuel Stephens
Jessica Stewart
Charles Stokes
Shore Stokes
Maury Stone
John Streetman



Andrew Stribling
Brandon Strickland
Joshua Sullivan
Nicholas Taran
Aaron Thatcher
Andrew Thom





John Thompson
James Thoms
Michael Tittermary

Andrew Troy
Yang-Hsi Tsai
Brian Tuohy

Gregory VanPelt
Jonathan Vaughn
Nicholas Viar



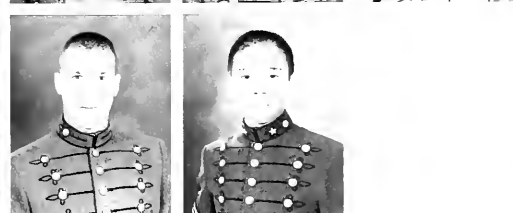
Ronald Volpicella
Jonathan Wade
Randall Wainman
Aaron Wallace
Colleen Wall
Jeremy Ward



Steven Watson
Lawton Way
Kurt Weishaar
Beau West
Hunter West
Brandon Wheeler



Christopher White
James White
Frederick Wilkins
Austin Williams
Frank Williams
Kendall Williams



Larry Williams
Henry Wise
Charles Witcher
Matthew Woyansk
Chen Yu-Fan

THE CLASS OF 2006



Left: Terry Slack and Heather Miras before 2006's first sweat party.
Below: Congratulations on your A-I Maddox.



Left: Christmas spirit from the guys in room 349.

Below: These guys are sooooo cool!



Ferguson and Chin before parade.



One Step Closer

Matriculation day, August seventeenth two thousand and two, surrounded by strangers we sat in JM Hall as General Josiah Bunting attempted to assure us and our parents that we had made the right decision. The words went in one ear and out the other, as we anxiously contemplated the months to come. Fearing the unknown, we left our parents and previous lives behind. In the ensuing months we experienced what can be most accurately described as a living hell. Drawing strength from each other, we endured through the sweat, blood and tears. On January twenty-fifth two thousand and three, the end we never thought would come came. After the longest day of our lives, we stood at the top of a big muddy hill. Shivering and cold, we looked around and were no longer surrounded by strangers, but rather by friends and brothers who were the only ones that could understand the significance of what we'd just done. With the first step behind us, we must look to the future with confidence, as we continue down the road less traveled as the Class of 2006.

Christopher Michael Stolle
Class Historian 2006



Right:

This is what happens when Alpha and Echo cohabit.



Above: Nothing says fun like a rodeo in grey blouse...thanks L-Train!

Right: The girls hanging out.

Below: Vice President Pasquale hooah-ed up.



Colin Adams
Richard Adamson
Kevin Aldrich
Ryan Alexander
Joseph Alley
Jose Amaral



Joseph Amatetti
Micah Amrozowicz
John Anderson
James Angerman
Thomas Angus
Albert Arline



Christopher Authier
Christopher Back
Christopher Baker



Todd Baldwin
Marcus Barnes
Jamaila Barrantes



Lewis Bartholomew
Stephen Bartoszak
Bradley Bascope

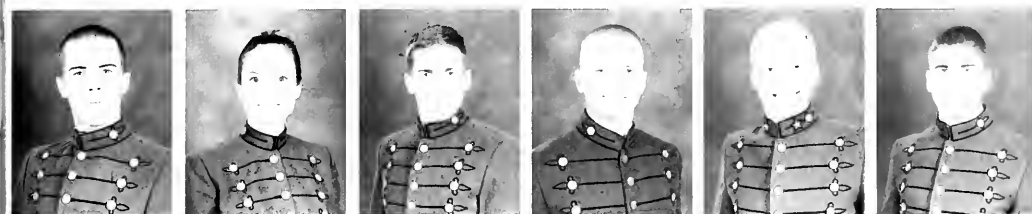


Steven Bechtel
Derek Behney
Johnathon Bender
Jeffrey Bennett
Kari Berton
David Bhatta



Amber Blain
Eric Bliss
Thomas Bradford
Christopher Brandriff
Charles Brennan
Cyprian Brodowski

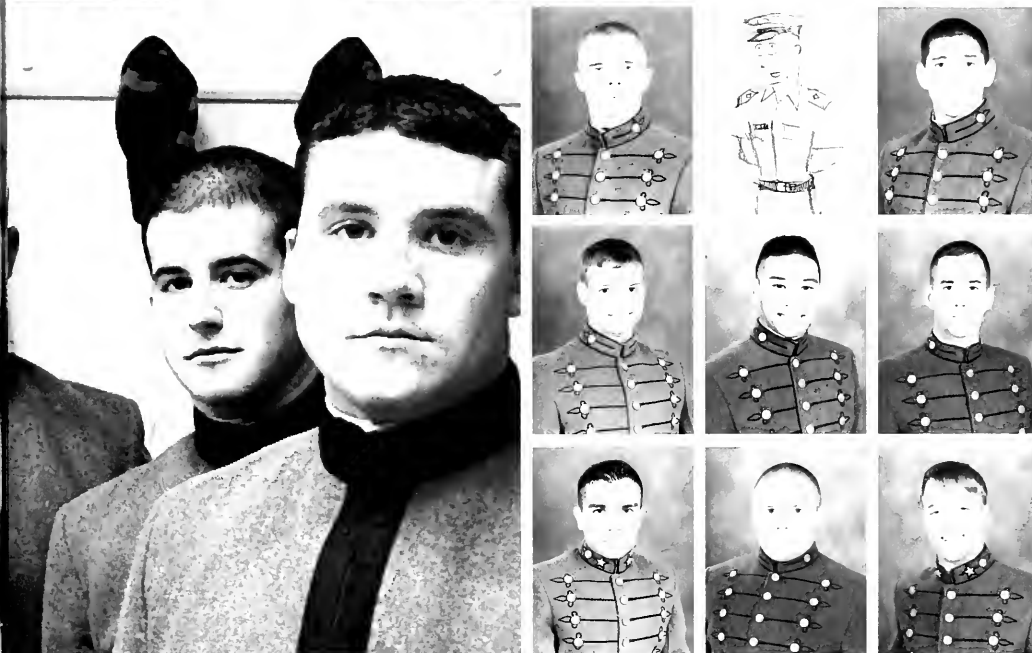




Christian Brown
Heather Brown
Joseph Brown
Bradley Bredwards
Seth Brunner
David Bruster



Chase Buchanan
Adam Buehler
Scott Bohman
Howard Bullen
Zohn Burden
Joel Burger



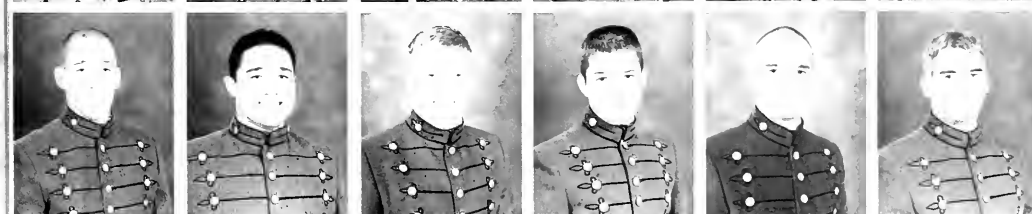
Mark Bush
Benjamin Butler
Jeffrey Butwell

Ian Camper
Gabby Canceran
Michael Carney

Marc Castillo
Anthony Cavallero
Isaac Cecil



Miguel Cervoni
Wei-Ying Chang
Christopher Chase
Michael Child
Ekkarach Chimpong
Christopher Chin



Benjamin Chovanec
Adrian Cmerek
William Collier
Thomas Collins
Edward Cook
Lee Cook

James Covington
Dennis Crump
Joseph Davidoski
Michael Davis
Kyle Deem
Kelley DeNeen



Andrew Dernovsek
John Deihl
Frank Dolberry
Scott Donald
James Donovan
Nicholas Dowdle



Clark Dudley
Richard Durkee
Jason Durr
Christopher Eaton
Clint Edwards



Dane Elles
Seth Enterline
Daniel Ervin
Jonathan Everiss
Nathaniel Ewoldt
Timothy Fairchild



Blake Faller
Clifton Ferguson
Michael Floyd



Christopher Foltz
Michael Forester
Denny Fox



John Fox
Daniel Frank
Jason Fraser





Robert Frazier
Joshua Freeman
Kyle Fricke
Jessica Fulton
Joshua Garrett
John Garvey



Christopher Gathman
Christopher Gilliland
Joseph Gill



Jeffrey Gillmore
Jonathan Glasscock
Adam Glassick



Eddie Cook actually
submitted this picture
of himself and labeled it
"hottie."

Jose Goncalves
Adam Good
Braxton Good
Derek Gouker
Erin Grabowsky



John Graham
Joehen Granja
Timothy Greer
Patrick Grey
Phillip Hahn
Kyle Hamm



Glenn Hammond
Christopher Hassler
Aaron Hawkins
Trista Hays
Craig Hefner
Jeremy Hefner



Patrick Heiny
Timothy Helmick
Ryan Hergrueter
John Herzog
Raymond Hill
Jesse Hills

Michael Hiltner
Benjamin Hilton
Shawn Hogan
Jonathan Hollenbeck
Russel Horrocks
Matthew Hudgins



Justin Huggard
Brian Hunt
Andrew Ihnen
Curtis Ivins
Han-Lung Jin
Phillip Johnson



Donald Johnston
Casey Jones
Matthew Jones
Shaun Jones
LaVar Joseph
William Keller



Jonathan Kelton
Johnathan Kennedy
Brian Kerrebroek
Diana Khaksar
David Kimsey
Yau-Ren Kuo



Phillip Lacey
Brian Lennon
Charles Lindsey



Colleen Logan
Shawn Loman
Jason Long



Ryan Loucks
John Lowrey



Brother Rat
Schillingburg
finally breaks
out with '07
after retuning
from Cuba.





Phillip Lundberg
Robert Lydon
Kyle Lynch
Lazshell Mackall
Kyle Madden
William Maddox



Jason Major
Michael Maleski



Tadas Mankevicius
Christopher Marr



Alexander Maslak
Robert Mason



Brandon Massenbourg
Nolan Maxwell
Jonathan Mayhew
Kevin Mays
Nicholas Mazzenga
Barry McCord



Sean McCormick
Brian McGill
Matthew McGonegle
Robert McGraw
David Mercera
Steven Mercer



Zachary Miller
Gerard Mills
Stuart Miner
Heather Miras
Sean Mizzer
Thomas Moncure

Tyler Monger
Kirk Monteleone
Sean Moran
Nathaniel Moreira
Benjamin Morris
Michael Morris



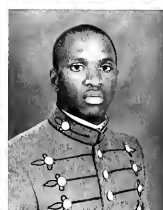
Benjamin Mowery
John Mundt
Cornelius Murray
Jonathan Nagle
Thomas Nance
Steel Nardozi



Andrew Neckman
Paul Neumann
Jonas Norbutus



Nicholas O'Connor
Berit Oftedahl
Anthony Oliver



Matthew Oliver
Daniel Osborne
Mary Osborne



Joseph Osuji
Jordan Pagones
James Papa
Timothy Papenfuse
Geoffrey Parker
Alana Parks



Steven Parsons
Michael Pasquale
Bart Payne
Christopher Petree
Daniel Petronzio
William Pettit





Lacey Phillips
John Plachta

Matthew Plant
Hans Porter

Katrina Powell
Gary Price



Christopher Pridgen
Jason Pritchett
Matthew Pumphrey
Gregory Quillen
David Rahl
David Raser



Daniel Regan
Keun Rhee
Kyle Richards
Michael Rios
David Roberts
Brandon Rocker



Christopher Rogers
Daniel Rogers
Ryan Rogers
Quentin Rohlf
Kyle Rosch
Adam Rosenbaum



Nick Saccone
Jeffrey Sale
David Santoro
Christopher Schalz
Robyn Schaperjahn
Kyle Schrieffer

Mark Searles
John Sheekells



Gered Sheets
John Shillingburg



Kevin Simpson
Yevgeniy Skvortsov



Terrance Slack
Andrew Smith
Christopher Smith
Kirby Smith
Matthew Smith
Steven Souchchenko



Brenton Spry
Bradley Steidle
Kirk Steiner
Thomas Stevenson
Christopher Stolle
Christopher Stone



Timothy Stover
Gregory Stronko
Kelly Sweppenhiser
Richard Tamillow
Jedidiah Tan
Patrick Tangonan



Joshua Taylor
Forest Tharrington
Clinton Thompson
Parker Thurman
Jonathan Tibbs
Ryan Tibbs





Brent Timmer
Jackson Todd
Anthony Tolomeo
David Trimble
Robert Trimble
Joseph Tyler



Brenton Underwood
Charles Upshaw
Thomas Upton
Lester Wagner
Samual Wallace
Joselyn Wall



Andrew Walton
Raymond Webb
Darren Wellner
Paul Welsh
Michael Werner
James White



James Wicker
Peter Wilcox
Alexander Williams
Clinton Williams
Daniel Wilmoth
Jonathan Wilson



Phillip Wilson
Thomas Wilson
Todd Wilson
Richard Wimmer
Brian Winter
Paul Witherspoon



Sean Wolf
James Woodard
Boyd Worley
Justin Woulfe
Brian Yannetti
Michael Yeo



Bryan Yerger
Andrew Yeskie
Thomas Zager
Sihang Zhang
Douglas Ziegenfuss
Joseph Zyra

THE CLASS OF 2007



On 16 August 2003, the Class of 2007 matriculated and like those that came before it, it endured "Hell Week," Cadre training, Rat Challenge, the RDC, sweat parties, rat tours, forced marches, the march to New Market, and finally, Breakout. They were inured against fear, frustration, and fatigue. Sadly, the administration set their breakout date, but '07 has certainly earned the right to call itself a class. This year, SRC was brought back for rats, so they had plenty of post-SRC cadre training, which was eliminated last year. "The administration made a lot of the ratline decisions that the Class of 2004 disagreed with," RDC representative Brad Haywood '04 said, "but we gave them the best ratline we could and certainly made some improvements over 2006's ratline."



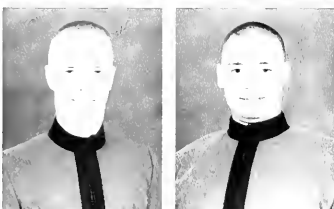
Ketra Alexander
Robert Allan
Samuel Alvarenga
Michael Anton
Marissa Arrington
Keashawn Artis



Craig Aukett
Corey Bachman
Corey Bafford
Eric Baptiste
Gregory Barnekoff
Charles Barnes



Bradley Beckner
John Beducian
Ryan Benson



Vanessa Berrios
Karen Bill
Justin Bishop



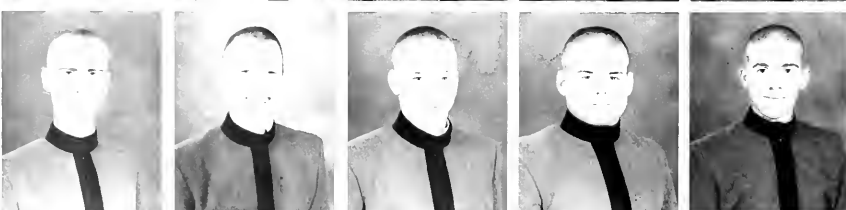
Justin Blanks
Barry Boone
Albert Bowker



Nicholas Boykin
Anthony Bradley
Ryan Branham
Daniel Brock
Robert Brooke
Jason Brown



Eric Bruns
Wadsworth Bugg
Colin Burns
Matthew Burton
Manuel Caballero
Benjamin Campbell





Michael Canning
Benjamin Carlson

Jamond Carter
Travis Carter

Ian Casher
Joseph Cassin

John Castleberry
Charles Catlett
Christopher Chang-Lo
Justin Chetney
Jeffrey Choma
Joshua Christian

Hatley Clifford
Brian Clinkscles
Salome Coffman
Stephen Combs
Nathaniel Comer
Joshua Copes

Michael Cornell
Matthew Coward
Stuart Craft
Austin Cronan
John Crumpler
Zachary Crush

Andrew Curtis
Daniel Czupryna
Dana Daly
Marcus Daniel
Elizabeth Davis
Matthew Davis

Sean Day
Maury Denton
Robert DiDomenico
Stefan Dietrich
Deuntay Diggs
Benjamin DiMeolo



Wesley Dockery
Dustin Dodge
Michael Doughton
William Doyle
Jeffrey Dudas
Erik Dupilka



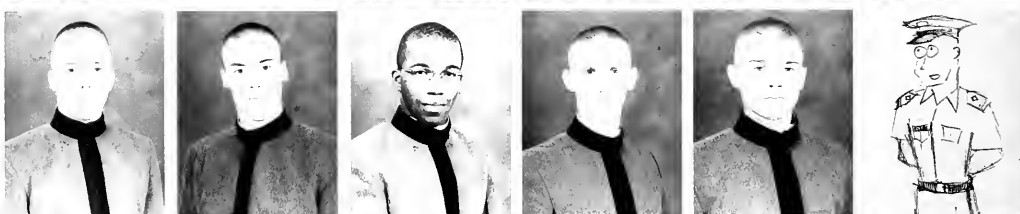
Thitipan Durasavin
Peter Duvincaud
Joseph Eanett
Christopher Earle
Nicholas Engle
Ryan Ernst



Timothy Ernst
Chijioke Ezekwe
Michael Fager
Byron Faidley
Mark Falcon
Jennifer Farkas



Derek Faver
Christopher Fields
Jacoby Fields
Nathan Fifer
Michael Flaherty
Graham Forbes

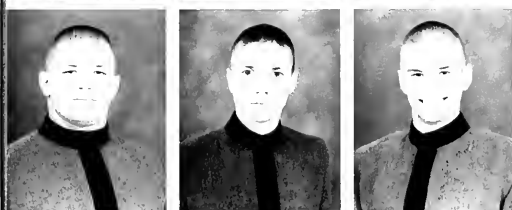


Quentin Forbes
Matthew Fountain
Nicklaus Franek
Raisa Franklin
Jonathan Fredericks
Charles Freeman



Matthew French
Jeffrey Fusiek
Matthew Galliher
Joshua Gauthier
Ryan Gerald
Liam Gilroy





Thomas Goehring
Michael Golike
John Goode

Lucas Gordon
Matthew Greetham
Casey Grey

Haley Gross
Richard Guy
Douglas Hague



Eric Hall
Jeffrey Hamilton
Justin Hancock
Evan Hanks
Joseph Hardes
William Harley



Nathaniel Harrell
Anthony Harris
Demetrius Harrison
Christopher Harvey
Laura Hash
Wesley Haynes

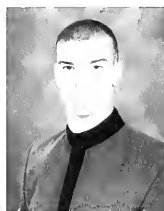


Catrina Helsel
Daniel Hennelly
Russ Henriett
Christopher Hidy
Paul Hiner
Sean Hingley



Colby Hollingsworth
Andrew Holt
Matthew Hopchak
Wesley Hopkins
Ryan Hopping
Erin Hottle

Patrick Hudson
Michael Huggins
Zachary Huson
Eljah Huston
William Hutaff
Eugene Hwang



Paul Issler
Robert Jacaruso
Kevin Janczic
Curtis Jaques
Patrick Johnson
George Johnson



Michael Johnson
Elise Jones
Shawn Jones



Eric Josephs
Eri Kamura
Matthew Kania



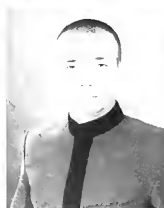
Jamil Karcem
Victor Karpov
Jehan Keitt



Thane Keller
Brandon Kelly
Aaron Kerkhof
Peter Kirkendall
Brandon Kirtley
Cory Knick



Michael Koney
William Konrad
Jesse Kopezynski
Gregory Kosh
Konngnt Kotcharaksa
Anastasia Kovarik





Peter Kowaleyk
Kathleen Krenzel
Eric Kupper
Timothy Labresh
Jason LaCorda
Hershel Lackey



David Lamb
Carolyn Lanier
Matthew Leary
William Legg
John Lento
Charles Liesfeld



John Limauro
Shian-Jiun Lin
Charles Litz



Shu-Chang Liu
Michael Lloyd
Thomas Lloyd



Stephen Long
Jose Lopez
Julie Lovingshimer



Wutthisan Luangjinda
Edwin Lugo
Daniel Lutterbie
Brittani Mack
Patrick Magno
Jonathan Marsh



Bryant Martin
Thomas Matthews
Whitney Matthews
Raymond Mattia
Andrew Maxwell
Kyle McAfee

Carie McAtee
Michael McAvoy
Nathan McCall
Benjamin McClure
Oliver McElroy
Michael McGann



Patrick McGill
Brian McGuire
John McKnight
Ryan McLean
Kenneth McWilliams
Patrick Melshen



Anthony Menas
Richard Meredith
David Metzler
Andrew Milford
Mark Miller
Edward Mills



Trevor Mitchell
William Moeller
Michael Moorman
Nathaniel Murphy
Matthew Murrer
Bryan Nelson



Christopher Nelson
Vincent Noel
Troy Nold



Charles Nweke
Liam O'Brien
Otieno Obuon



Braden Orr
Isaac Ostlund
Matthew Pacheco





Addison Palanza
Travis Pantaleo
Christopher Parker



Stephen Partin
Robert Payne
Thomas Pepka



Michael Peranski
William Perry
Michael Pesano



Adam Peters
James Petter
Grant Pfeiffer
Hunter Phillips
Joseph Picariello
Clayton Piersall



Jonathan Pinkerton
Tabitha Pinter
Scott Pistochini
Daniel Plitnik
Jonathan Pool
Joshua Prible



Brandon Price
Brant Priest
Stephen Prugh
Bradley Pruitt
Raevon Pulliam
Anthony Raffaele



Samuel Rasnick
Alexander Rawling
Devin Ream
Molly Redmond
Jordan Reed
Adam Reel

Peter Relyea
Brian Renaghan
Kathleen Resetar
Matthew Rexford
Chad Rice
Paul Rice



Larry Richardson
Seth Richardson
Daniel Rickmond
David Riedel
Frederick Robinson
Anthony Roman



Victor Rosen
Dustin Ross
Benjamin Rosser
Tyler Russell
Robert Russman
Matthew Saccone



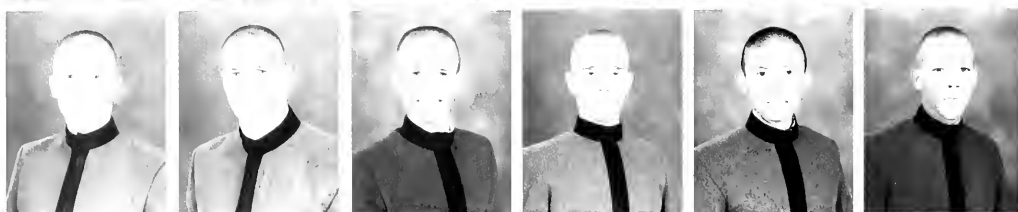
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James Sandman
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Clifford Schademan
John Schluge



Jonathan Schmidt
Matthew Schreibleder
Dustin Schultz
Gregory Schwartz
Jonathan Schwere
Christopher Scott

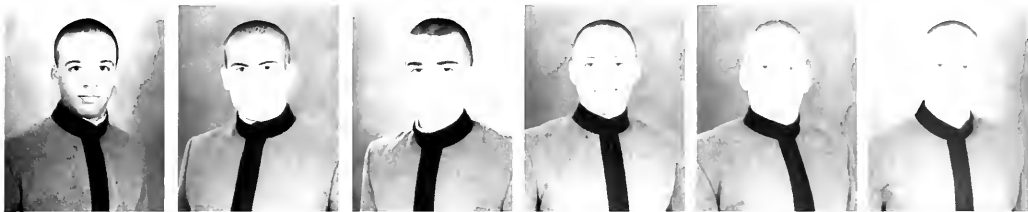


Sean Seawell
Salvatore Sferazza
Matthew Shea
Paul Sheldon
Kaiyu Shih
Charles Simmons

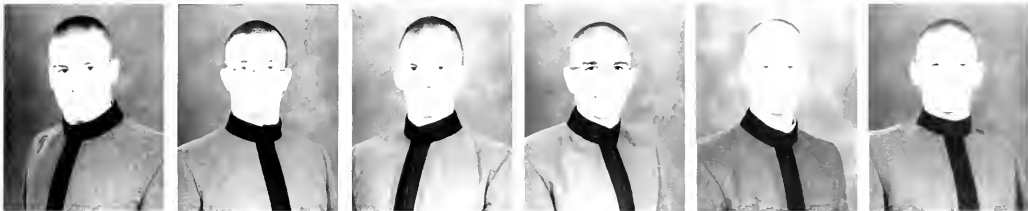


Jason Simulek
Ryan Smith
Thane Smith
Kyle Snider
Bryan Stange
Whitney Steiger





Ryan Steptoe
Adam Stetson
Daniel Stinnett
Steven Stone
Daniel Strasser
Clifton Streagle



Neal Sutliff
Daniel Swift
Steven Sykes
John Terminato
Wesley Thomas
Joseph Thompson



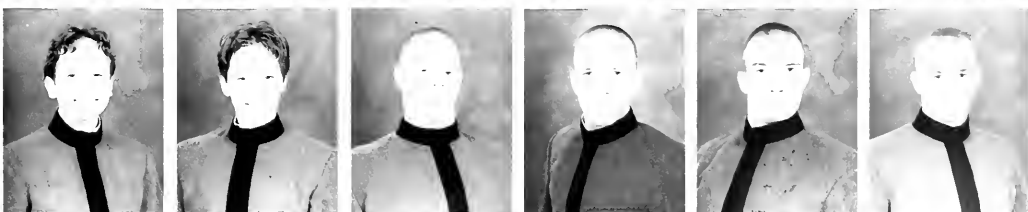
Joshua Thompson
Robert Thompson
Andrew Timpner
Nicholas Tommaso
John Tomsyck
Matthew Treadwell



Justin Trowbridge
Ming-Yeh Tsai
Michael Tu
Stephen Turner
Matthew Upchurch
Brent Upham



Joshua Van Cleef
Mira Veis
Kevin Vik
Christopher Waddell
Mailton Wade
Jamaal Walton

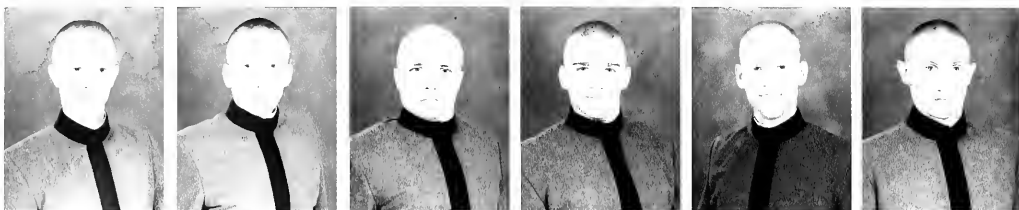


Abigail Ward
Quincy Washa
James Watson
Robert Weatherford
Christopher Webb
Brian Welch

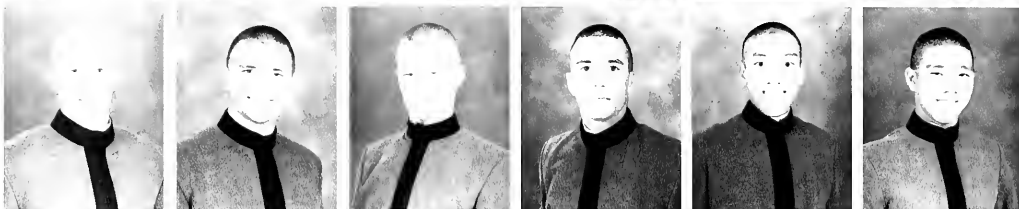


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Matthew Whalon
Bret Wilhite
Ahshar Williams
Andrew Williams
David Williams

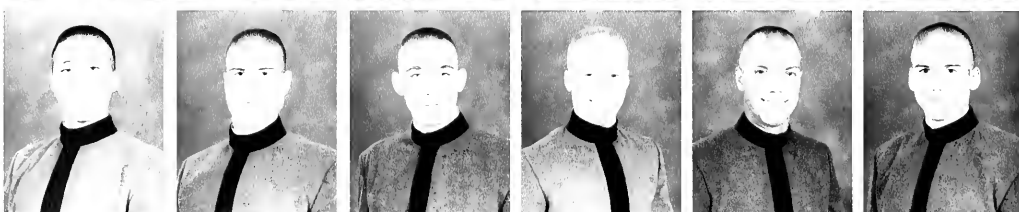
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Rhys Williams
Charles Williams
Jacob Willis
Kyle Willis
Bradley Wilson



Alexander Winsper
Stuart Wittmeier
Jonathan Woloshuk
Nicholas Worek
Colin Wu
Kimball Yamasaki



David Yi
Christopher Yoder
John Yohe
Patrick Young
Ryan Young
Taylor Zahm



Catherine Zarembo
Marcin Zola





BREAKOUT

**THE RAT MASS OF 2004+3 BECOMES
THE CLASS OF 2007**

On Saturday, the 24th of January, the Rat Mass of 2004+3 became the Class of 2007.

Early on that cold Saturday morning, the rat mass formed up in front of barracks and separated into companies for two hours of circuit training. Each company would spend fifteen minutes at a station before continuing to the next challenge. They were challenged with an artillery pull, which consisted of repeatedly pulling a bus across the parade ground and pushing it back to its original position. They also had to carry logs up and down a hill, run the VMI obstacle course and conquer the marine obstacle course. The rats were then made to do log PT, run circuits on the stairs behind Lejeune hall, carry their brother rats up hospital hill, and repetitively run up and down the stairs of Alumni Memorial Stadium.

Following the completion of their

morning circuits the rats were subjected to two consecutive workouts. First they met the third class in new barracks and moved on to the second class in old barracks. After the two sweat parties, the rats had a quick lunch and began their march along the Chessie Trail to McKethan Park where breakout hill is located. As companies arrived at the park, the rats ran into a field where they first saw the hill. Company by company, the rats charged the hill, facing water pits and mud walls before reaching the top as fourth classmen.

"When I made the final ascent up that muddy hill,

I wasn't thinking about the privileges I was about to receive, the brand new black name tag that waited for me, or the music I was going to jam to. I was too conscious of the cold that overwhelmed my entire body. I have been to a lot of places with extreme temperatures and harsh conditions, but I have never been that cold in my life. I saved the celebrating until I got the feeling back in my limbs. It was the worst, best experience of my life," Joshua Prible, '07 said.

After a short bus ride back to barracks, the

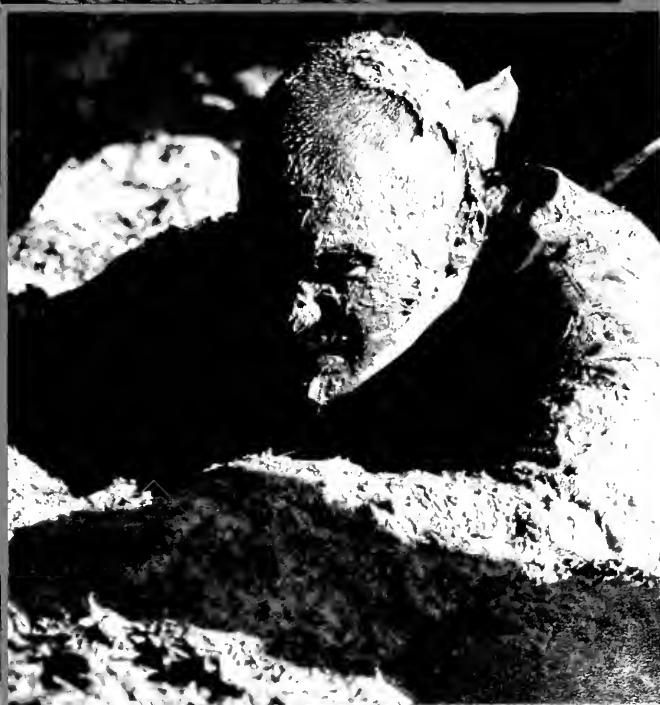
rats cleaned up and made a class size platoon march into barracks where the Class of 2004 and 2004+3 gave old yells for the classes of 2006, 2005, 2004, and finally the Class of 2007. "It is here that the old Corps formally acknowledges the Class of 2007 and accepts them as a part of the Corps of Cadets," First Class President Jason Quash said.

"We started planning as far back as mid-November. Matt Roscoe was the operations officer in charge and put everything together. We all put a lot of work and effort into it and it came out well. There were no major injuries and the day went off without a hitch. There was great OGA support and the Class of '04 was very active. The 'Hill' was executed flawlessly and by the end of the day we were only off schedule by a mere 35 minutes. We designed the hill after the hill that '04 had. It was really great to see it come together," Quash said.

"In the mud of that hill, the Brother Rat spirit that had been cultivated in the ratline was finally forged into a class, and that, unlike the mud, can never be washed away," Vince Noel '07 said. Patrick Magno added, "During Breakout, I couldn't stop thinking about Dr. Beddel's quote about how 'when I die my BR's and I will go to Hell and regroup there.' We went through a lot together and the friendship is eternal."

"The ratline united our class more than I ever thought possible," Steve Long '07 said. "If I had to do it again, I would, and I know the rest of my class would do it again too."





RING FIGURE



CLASS OF 2005

Second Class

THE THIRD MILESTONE

Two years ago, when we were lowly Rats, I got my first glimpse of Ring Figure. I remember the wild concert in barracks mid-week. I remember all the fine-looking ladies walking around in their formal white gowns Friday night. Unfortunately the clearest memory I have was the night of the second-class dinner, what we celebrated ourselves last night. That night we had a harsh work-out from our cadre. We were hustled up to the 4th stoop from the mess hall, and started the games that we had become accustomed to by November. The seconds were all gone that night, so it was the Rats, and a couple members of cadre, past and present Rat Disciplinary Committee members, infamous for their hatred of Rats. They were apparently extra displeased with us that night. Besides the usual push-ups and yelling and screaming, they added something

new that night. They ordered us to go down to the second-class parking lot, far below barracks. Each of us was to bring back a single piece of gravel. To cover that considerable distance, we were given about two minutes. We took off sprinting, made it down there, picked up those rocks and went tearing back to the 4th stoop dripping sweat, gasping for air, muscles burning, cadre watching and yelling at us the entire time from our 4th stoop windows. When we finally got back to the stoop, we were reminded in no uncertain terms that VMI cadets do not take things that do not belong to them... Off we went racing back to the parking lot to set those rocks back where we had found them. All the while, as we were racing back and forth, soaking our uniforms through with sweat, the seconds were strolling down, jumping in their rides, smiling, joking... laughing at us... I never thought the day would come that we would be in their place. It seemed like an eternity at that time.

This momentous event *has* finally arrived. After matriculation, there are three great milestones in one's cadetship: Breakout,

Ring Figure, and graduation. Today we mark the accomplishment of the third of those four events. Today, after two and a half years of trials and tribulations – what I have been told is called the quote unquote “VMI experience” in my many trips to the Commandants office – today, we officially join the VMI Brotherhood. We too can now say that we wear the Ring.

The Rings did not come easy, nothing worth having ever does. I realize there are many alumni in the audience... and the older you get, the tougher it was. I want you, and the rest of the audience, to know that this class that sits before you has earned the right to wear the Ring with their *blood, sweat, and tears*. We have endured experiences that no one will ever be able to relate to, besides you alumni, those that have gone before. We have lost many of our number along the way. But those of us who have persevered have accomplished something significant. Today we join a select few, an elite.

Wear the Ring with pride. It symbolizes our bonds to the Institute, to those who have earned the Ring before us, and to our Brothers Rats in the Class of 2005, the BEST CLASS IN BARRACKS!!! Thank you and God Bless.

Ian G. Dunlap
Historian, Class of 2005

VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE

Class of 2009



William C. Ray

William C. Ray
Ring Design Committee Chairman

Benjamin R. King

Benjamin R. King
Class Vice President

Committee Members

Alex Boykin, Matthew Dowdy, Jonathan Proctor, Maciek Kepka,
Lawton Way, Jeff Henderson, Sam Stephens

Timothy

Timothy
Ring Figure

MARY INSTITUTE

2005



Robert J. Oaks

Robert J. Oaks
Class President

Michael P. Tittermary

Michael P. Tittermary
Class Treasurer

Johnson
Chairman

Design Committee Members
Andrew Miller, Henry Wise, J.B. Thompson,
Aaron Childers, Brandon Wheeler, Tom Ferrara



RING FIGURE COUPLES



Justin S. Abbinante
Coletta Ann DeSanto



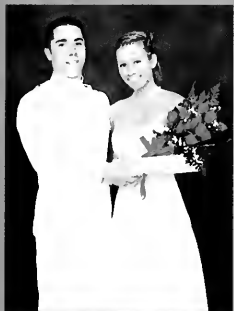
Matthew P. Acors
Kristen Danae Altman



Milton E. Aguirre, Jr.
Katelyn Mitchel BeVard



Colm E. Alstad
Emily Ann Clark



Jose P. Amaral
Lindsey Drummond



Ryan L. Anderson
Shelly Anne Lind



William P. Angle
Mary-Lewis Neal



Zane A. Angle
Carol St. Clair Green



Gabriela Arraiz
Pedro Garcia



Rebecca N. Baas
Jeff Baas



John M. Baber
Sara Gerringer



Robert D. Barbaree, III
Brooke Ashley Thomason



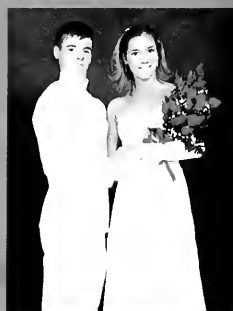
John A. Beall, V
Emily Maddock



David M. Beehler
Lyndsay Wray Welsh



Lael E. Bellotti
Lauren Ashley Mounts



Charles M. Blake
Chandler Lorraine Jarvis



Victor E. Bockman, Jr.
Elizabeth Claire Hundley



Roland C. Bodenheim
Kristen Elizabeth Corwin



Kanchanadet Banchusuwan
Kelsey Lauren Oler



Anthony R. Boone
Elizabeth Yvonne Lipe



Lance C. Bourassa
Alissa Cecelia Kelly



Brian K. Bowman
Mary Regina Hogan



Alexander N.T. Boykin
Erin Wilkerson



Garrett T. Brickner
Jennifer Lear



Paul T. Bryan
Adina Otilie Bush



Steven L. Bryan
Kara Elizabeth Priddy



William C. B. Bryant
Katie Poppas



William C. Butt, III
Erica Theresa Crossman



Austin C. Cam
Molly Mercer



Thomas A. Largi, Jr.
Trista Katrina Hicks



Gregory J. Carlson
Erin Hartman



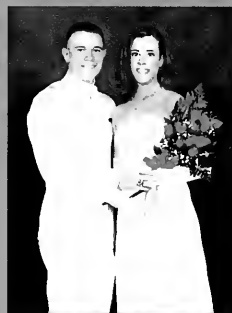
David G. Carroll, Jr.
Marrisa Beale



Albert J. Chatwood
Amanda Dee Fedde



Yu-Fan Chen



Aaron W. Childers
Erin Elizabeth Duncan



Jonathan D. Cirillo
Christi Elizabeth Buckner



Kyle B. Clark
Beth Gibble



Ryan T. Clemens
Ashley Marie Warner



Adam J. Clift
Jordan Wailana Archuletta



Anthony A. Cochet, Jr.
April Finn



Jeremy R. Coffman
Cassandra Anell Cross



John C. Coleman, II
Amanda Ashley Gurgangus



Scarlett M. Collins
James Matthew Bean



Mark J.T. Conley
Kathryn Elizabeth Grinstead



Allen M. Coones
Jessica Lauren Craft



Kenneth W. Cooper
Erica Lauren Vautier



Mildred M. Cooper
Randall Lewis Cooper



Jonathan K. Corrado
Jenna Marie Fisher



Boyd A. Correll, Jr.
Sara Bryan



Steven M. Cunningham
Latitia Cunningham



Jeffery R. DeMara
Leigh Ann White



Anthony T. DeMarco
Nikki Anderson



Ty E. Denby
Erin Rateau



William K. DeShazor
Marie Danelle Davis



Jason D. Devine
Rachel Ann Vandegies



Sean K. Dixon
Amber Dawn Gathje



Douglas C. Dobbins
Melissa Lee Massy



Matthew R. Dowdy
Kellie Louise Wells



Matthew P. Dowler
Amber Dawn Accamando



Jason M. Downs
Kelly Marie Elliott



Peter B. Dreisbach, Jr.
Jamie Lee Maurer



James C. Driggs
Crystal Rose Liggan



Jarred W. Drown
Rachel Marie Baldwin



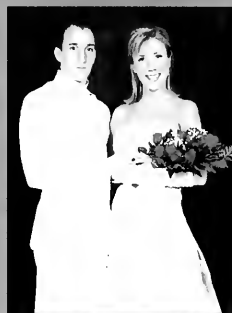
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Kaia Roberts



Brian E. Duncan
Brandi Rebecca Barger



Ian G. Dunlap
Jennifer Rika Orr



Alexander J. Dunoye
Courtney E. Lorenz



Jeffrey W. Durham
Heather Leann Daniel



Matthew A. Dussia
Lauren Elizabeth Whilhoite



Franklin L. Dyson, II
Lindsey Diane Nash



Roman V. Edmunds
Shayna Nguyen



Charles J. Ehnott, Jr.
Gina A. DiVizio



Cory D. Engelhard
Chantal Lyeth



Elliot R. Erbe



Justin C. Fallin
Tracy Lynn Looney



Edward P. Farrell, III
Aldrina Nemil Cabonilas



James E. Favareau, III



Charles W. Feazelle
Nancy Elizabeth Jasek



Brandon K. Fellers
Jessica Lynn Guido



Thomas W. Ferrara
Meghan Joss



Daniel T. Fields
Erin Dennehy



John T. Fisher
Bridget Elizabeth Benedict



Brian P. Fitzgerald
Jessica Puckett



Ian M. Foley
Jana Christine Cram



Timothy M. Foran
Lyndsey Scott



Vicheal A. Foxx, Jr.
Tiffany Jill William



Adam D. Frick
Elizabeth Ashley Powell



Gerrid M. Gall
Sarah M. White



Erik D. Gallmann
Brittnee Elliot



Loren A. Gernandt
Mei-Ling To Fye



Robert G. Gibson
Lindsay Diane Jaworski



Aaron V. Gleaton
Julie M. Bridges



Adam R. Gochenour
Suzy I. Husner



Andrew L. Gordon
Deanna Bodine



Brian R. Gorski
Lauren Marie Kjellberg



Titus L. Green
Anne Justine McCue



Cody J. Grey
Denise M. Uribe



Preston W. Griffith, III
Bessie Hunter Lapeyrouse



Felix Guerra, III
Adrienne Roshan Fleurke



Christopher W. Guin
Kelly Elizabeth Moul



Brandon J. Haenny
Anne Canice Lyden



Henry Hak
Bonnie Penn



William C. Hamilton, III
Yoni Maria Riviera



Brandon A. Haney
Katy Beth Lernihian



Daniel J. Hansen
Aja Danielle Arana



Thomas C. Hardinge
Melissa Nicole Florer



Christopher W. Hardy



Justin J. Harris
Jennifer Grace Seither



Daniel P. Harrison
Nicole Crouch



Brett R. Havelka
Lauren McHugh



James E. Hayes
Jill Elizabeth Nester



Conor L. Heely
Lauren Brooke Collier



Eric W. Heese
Caroline Ame O'Donnel



Edward M. Henderson
Rachel Connors



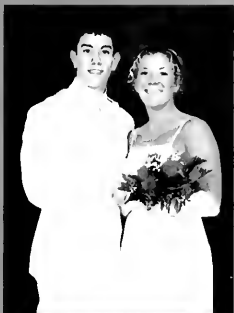
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Elizabeth Ann Grossheim



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Becky Durst



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Rachel Kave Constantino



Travis L. Hord
Marlene Hord



Eric J. Huggard
Allison Hamill



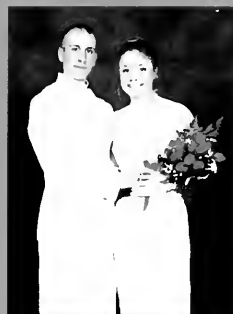
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Maria Louise Iannatuono



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Thomas C. A. Innes
Kelly Gayle Kennedy



Kyle A. Isaacs
Meghan Catherine Hatchett



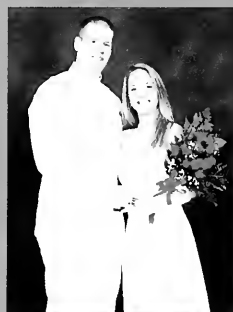
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Hsian-Ru Chen



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Lauren Rebecca Fletcher



Nathan L. Johnson
Ashley Elizabeth Kirtner



Peter C. Johnson
Katie Christine Lambert



Samuel A. Johnson
Lyndsay Meridith Conroy



Timothy M. Johnson
Jennifer Lynne Hadra



Alan M. Jones
Diana Kathryn Wikerson



Kevin P. Jones
Lauren Spokas



Paul D. Julian, Jr.
Emily Houff



Eric M. Kaltrider
Dianne Renee Deger



Andrew J. Karnes
Emily Schwartz



Kurt S. Karpov
Gemma Borgean



Maciek J. Kepka
Jennifer Marie O'Connor



Benjamin R. King
Lauren E. Burns



Ryan D. King
Ashley Marie Mayes



James B. Kingsley, Jr.
Katherine Ryan Leach-Kemon



John R. Kite
Megan Renne Dillon



Peter I. C. Knowles, III
Leigh Taylor Weedon



Andrew M. Kochli
Hope Griffith



Scott A. Kreckman
Leila Clark Weissinger



Jeffrey A. Krug
Sara Ritterhoff



Peter J. Kubesh, II
Jeanette Magaly Martinez



Matthew J. Kurz
Alicia Isabel Paez



Paul A. Kuwik
Sarah Kolbe



Daniel W. Kwon
Lauren Lenz



Jeffrey F. Lange, Jr.
Rosemary Valesquez



John J. Langowsky, II
Ashley Brooke Lawson



John D. Leacock, II
Crystal Leigh Gilbert



Thomas W. Lee
Maggi Jane Chamberlain



Mark A. Lenzi
Amanda Michelle Dudek



Zachary M. Lewis
Rebecca Diane Molesky



Hsin-Yu Lin
Lauren Bodenhein



Richard A. Litwin
Melanie Kay Lecke



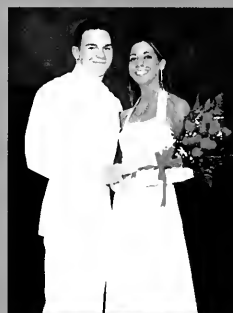
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Nazo Burgy



Eric M. Lockard
Francessca Wiley



Joshua Lyles
Katherine S. Aldrich



Henry M. Lynch
Linda Margaret Gerrish



Marc B. Lyons
Amanda Elizabeth Mason



Shushil M. Machhi
Marina Dickens



Scott T. Maciejewski
Rachel Leigh Teune



Laura C. Mack
Michael Sosniak



Thomas F. Manley, III
Allison Renee Mashburn



Logan J. Manning
Rebecca Thacker



Sean M. Matson
Casey Lynn Carroll



Gabriel M. McCaig
Katherine Anne Miller



Douglas J. Macdonald
Jacklyn Elise Carney



Preston H. McFaddin
Hilary Ann Cerkey



Shannon P. Meehan
Amanda Jane Weinberger



George B. Melton
Ashley Elizabeth Turner



Paul F. Mercer, III
Taylor Lee Wickersham



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Adriane Lynn Ramers



Bradley P. Miller
Lindsay M. Perkins



Jordan P. Mills
Kristina Annette Etheridge



Lucas A. Moore
Sarah Ashley Shifflett



Sean T. Moore
Kim Grove



John A. Morgan
Elizabeth Pamela Olsen



Reese S. Morris
Jillian Lee Wallace



Christopher A. Muller
Jenna Clausen



Ryan A. Murphy
Alexis Day



Emily Naslund
John D. Naslund



Saul R. Newsome
Sarah Marie Cary



William L. Nickels
Angela Ellen Eppard



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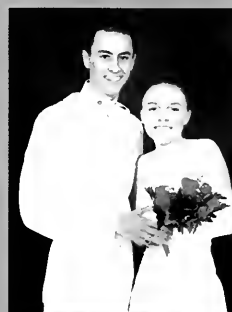
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Blaire Elizabeth Bingham



Amie-Anne E. Novak
William H. Talley, V



Robert J. Oaks
Holy Harrelt



Rory P. Opanasets
Erin Ashley Ruffead



Robert L. Page
Karen Marie Wheeler



Brian Park
Charis Nicole Lease-Trevathan



Seth H. Parker
Catherine Grace Spicer



Michael E. Parsons
Kerry Michelle Sale



William H. Paulette, II
Victoria Helena Finka



Maury D. Pauling
Virtre Katie-Raemoan Sterling



William C. Pearl, Jr.
Tricia Coughlin



Daniel C. Pearsall
Sabrina Dyan Harberts



Marco A. Perez, Jr.
Karla Liliana Contreras



Christopher O. Perry
Andrea DeVonn Jackson



Thomas A. Petykowski
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Lev Pobirsky
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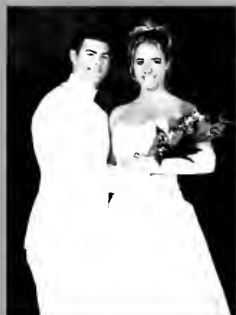
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James T. Rainey
Sarah Lynn Scannevin



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Mary Christopher



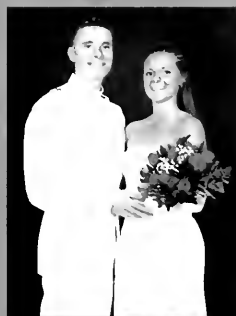
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Kristen Ann Riley



Pamela D. Reeves
Frank L. Reeves



Jason A. Reinitz
Kimberly Witt



John D. Rerucha
Caitlyn Mae Faller



Robert V. Ricadela
Kristen Cruz



Timothy F. Rieman
Krista Elizabeth Gallagher



Erik J. Rohrmann
Paige Worthington



Joseph A. Rouleau
Stephane Snow



Adam C. Rouse
Lauren Esposito



John E. Sakaleros
Lindsay Marie Hellmann



Phillip R. Sauls, II
Danielle Carlyn Porter



Stephen W. Sawyer
Megan Elizabeth Vulk



Ryan M. Schelske
Kristen Leigh Leonard



Daniel O. Schreiber
Andrea Jo Ellsworth



Shelby E. Sears
Anna McCutchen Strieter



Margaret S. Serig
Howard William Serig



Walter G. Shakespeare
Karen Elizabeth Lerow



James O. Shambley
Brooke Renee Yarns



Philip A. Shapiro
Tiffany Regina Stinnert



Joshua D. Simulcik
Melissa Anne Miller



Carlton E. Smith, III
Ashely Virginia Trueblood



Jefferson D. Smith, IV
Margaret Justine Frost



Joseph R. Smith
Emily Nicole Wyatt



Margaret A. Smith
Grant Goodman



Matthew B. Smith
Ashleigh Meghan Wright



Daniel Spanu
Mavia Brown



Jeffrey A. Sparks
Lindsey Priestei



Brett B. St Peter
Brittany Nicole Kinser



Gregory L. Staat
Laura Lynn Dieli



Jamaal W. Stafford
Vanessa Rigaud



Benjamin R. Stenger
Stephanie Nicole Meece



Samuel J. Stephens
Katharine Hope Hale



Jessica H. Stewart
Alexander O'Grady



Brandon K. Strickland
Ashley Danielle Denby



Charles K. Stokes
Leslie Harper Massey



Shore A. Stokes
Shannon Marion Carnahan



Maury A. Stone, Jr.
Sloane Dalton Dills



John F. Streetman, Jr.
Paige Danielle Sull



Andrew M. Stribling
Carey June North



Joshua C. Sullivan
Samantha Rue Whiteside



Nicholas B. Taran
Jennifer Joy Bates



Aaron T. Thatcher
Aurey Margaret Sastri



Andrew M. Thom
Jessica Chilson



John B. Thompson, III
Jennifer Kakla



James M. Thoms, II
Michelle Lee Perry



Michael P. Tittermary
Lillian Lucia Bindas



Andrew M. Troy
Katherine Newell Whitley



Brian P. Tuohy
Amanda Chapel Foskey



Gregory L. VanPelt
Kelly Jean Korzyk



Jonathan K. Vaughn
Alley Barrut



Nicholas D. Viar
Kelly Ann Briceland



Ronald E. Volpicella
Ashley Ryanne Jones



Jonathan D. Wade
Heather Jean Brown



Randall L. Wainman
April Nicole Martin



Colleen M. Wall
Kenneth Wall



Aaron E. Wallace
Natalie Ireland



Jeremy M. Ward
Christine Marie Reustle



Steven J. Watson
Kathleen Anne Ferraro



Lawton B. Way
Shelton Rumsey Weatherford



Kurt C. Weishaar
Kathryn Robinson



Beau A. West
Tracy Lynn Vrablik



Hunter W. West
Samantha Suzanne Simmons



Brandon H. Wheeler
Sarah Ann Zichi



Jarod B. Wheeler
Amanda Marie Vaughn



Christopher E. White



James R. White
Kelly Ann Smellem



Frederick B. Wilkins
Brandy Christine Staley



Austin D. Williams
Tiffany Jones



Frank G. Williams, Jr.
Danielle Adler



Kendall B. Williams, II
Karen Jean Pazzari



Henry Wise, III
Mercer Meade



Charles R. Witcher
Lauren Balasco



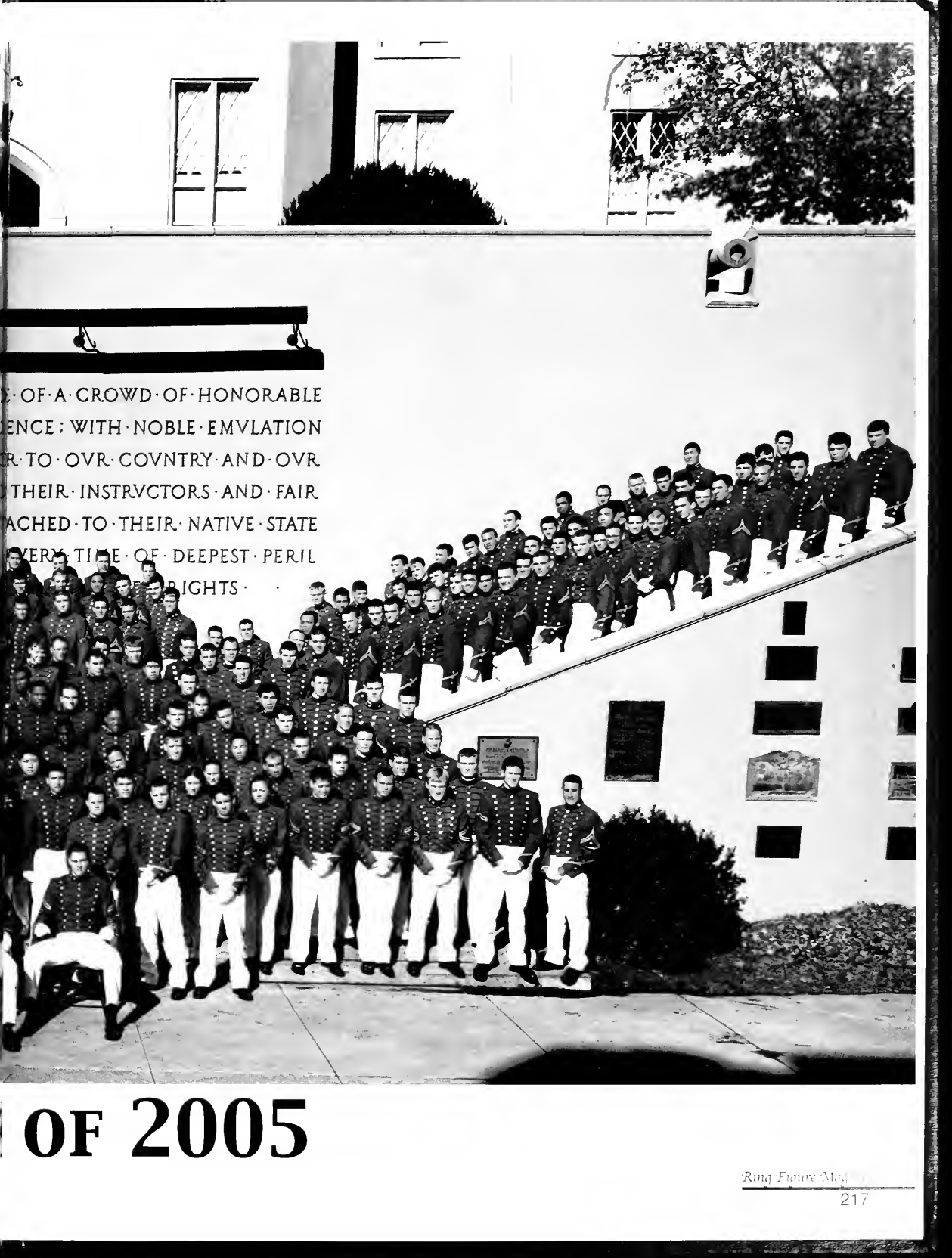
Matthew T. Woyansky
Laura Rae Pruett



THE HEALTHFUL AND PLEASANT AB-
 YOUTHS PRESSING UP THE HILL OF
 A GRATIFYING SPECTACLE: AN HO-
 STATE: OBJECTS OF HONEST PRIDE-
 SPECIMENS OF CITIZEN SOLDIERS:
 PROVD OF HER FAITH AND DEAR
 TO VI

THE CLASS

Second Class

A black and white photograph of a large group of men in military uniforms, likely the Ring Figure Model, posing on the steps of a building. The men are arranged in many rows, filling the steps and the foreground. They are wearing dark jackets with epaulettes and light-colored trousers. The building behind them has a light-colored facade with several windows and a small plaque on the wall. The text "OF A CROWD OF HONORABLE" is visible on the left side of the image.

OF A CROWD OF HONORABLE
ENCE: WITH NOBLE EMULATION
ER TO OVR COUNTRY AND OVR
THEIR INSTRVCTORS AND FAIR
ACHED TO THEIR NATIVE STATE
EVERY TIME OF DEEPEST PERIL
RIGHTS

OF 2005

RINGS RECEIVED



Sergeant Major Hockaday speaks to the class before cadets get their rings.



Ben King, Robert Oaks, Ian Dunlap.



Second Class

MARCHING ONWARDS



Allen Porter, JB Thompson, Paul Bryan, Walker Shakespeare, Lawton Way, Amie-Anne Novak and John Corrado as CO.



One of the Stokes brothers.



Scott Kreekman as the pipe band Drum Major.

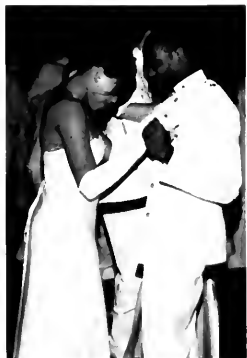


Alex Boykin helps his Brother Rats prepare for parade.

A MAGICAL EVENING



Second Class



LETTING LOOSE





HONORARY BROTHER RATS

The Class of 2005 chose Lieutenant Colonel Russell Rivers and Major Craig Wiggers as their Honorary Brother Rats. Both men entered VMI just over a year ago and already they have found a place in the hearts of the cadets. The Class of 2005 seized the opportunity to make them part of the best class in barracks – the Class of 2005. These men wear their rings proudly and continue to be an inspiration each day to their fellow BR's here at VMI. They truly are an integral part of the class.



Lt. Col. Russell Rivers

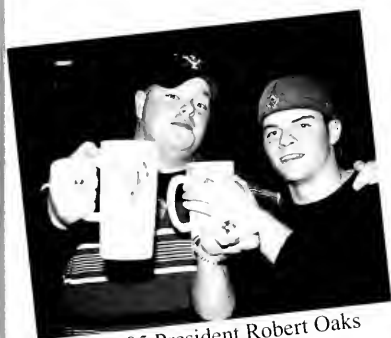


Major Craig Wiggers



Second Class

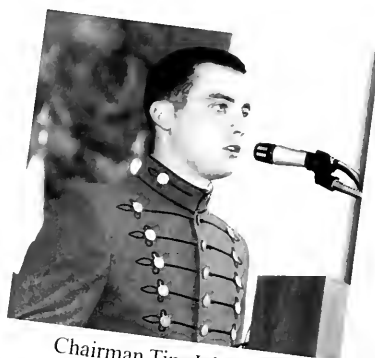
SPECIAL THANKS



2005 President Robert Oaks



Treasurer Michael Tittermary



Chairman Tim Johnson



Design Committee Chairman Will Ray



The 2005 Class Officers



2005 Vice President Ben King



Amie-Anne Novak
Ring Figure Editor, *The Bomb*

ACADEMICS

PRESSING UP THE HILL OF SCIENCE, OR SKIING THE SLOPES OF LIBERAL ARTS

Despite an ever changing, ever increasing barrage of inspections on the bricks, room inspections, mandatory intramurals, formations, check forms, NCAA sports, and a host of other time-consuming ventures, VMI cadets occasionally find the time for their academic endeavors. While the ostensible function of most higher education institutions may be to build young minds, some cadets would vehemently argue that VMI's mission is more akin to bombarding them, in hopes that some efforts will result in a direct hit or two.

On the whole, the academic experience is made bearable and possibly even constructive, thanks to the many dedicated faculty easily found in any academic department. While a "good student-to-teacher ratio" is frequently found in VMI recruitment literature, cadets of any major can attest to the fact that it is the quality, not the quantity of the instruction which has most fully enriched their experience.

Whether cadets have spent the majority of their collegiate experience within the gilded halls of "Scott Ship High", or lurked in the unexplored depths of Mallory, Nichols, or New Science, most of them will agree: their major is really the hardest one at VMI. So despite the best efforts of some powers-that-be, school work usually takes a higher priority than many will admit. After all, we all came here to learn a thing or two, didn't we?

ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS



Back Row: LTC Moreschi, COL West, MAJ Basu, COL Gutermuth, COL Husted, COL Bush, Maj Sen. **Front Row:** COL Duncan, General Badgett, COL Sexton, COL Fraley, CMDR Schwartz.

The quintessential experience of every cadet in the Economics and Business Department is centered on hardship. Some of the most famous professor nicknames at the Institute hail from the third floor of Scott Shipp hall, notably “Flunkin’ Duncan,” with his own breed of anti-Democratic centered economic theory, lovingly named “Duncanomics” by cadets, he makes the 2nd class year of any cadet a painful lesson in how wrong everything they thought they knew was. With classes that focus on graduate level concepts and an average GPA that makes job recruiters laugh, the Economics and Business Department strives to glean the best from their students and encourage their successful futures (in fast food).

ENGLISH



Back Row: Mr. Ayers, COL Bedell, LTC Rachels, COL Badgett, MAJ Thompson, COL Ball. **Front row:** COL Baragona, Mrs. Deyo, COL Miller (Dept. Head), MAJ Ticen, LTC Ayau. **Not Pictured:** COL Leland, LTC McDonald, COL McDonald

Communist. Fascist. Hippy. At VMI, all these appellations are inexplicably synonymous with the English Department.

The English Department has a certain ability to transcend all majors and touch every cadet in a special way. Whether or not you have ever had Col. Meredith Bedell, she has in some way given you a bad grade; LTC Ayau and Rachels, as well as Maj. Thompson have talked trash to you on the basketball court, and no matter what the score is, they will still claim they "schooled you." You may have never had a class with Col. Badgett; you may have never seen Col. Badgett; you may not even know who Col. Badgett is, regardless, though, you think he is pretty much the coolest guy ever. Col. Ball - I guess knowing Allen Ginsberg is cool.

As English majors, we were subjected to a rigorous and strict curriculum, but if you could keep three things in mind you could make it: everything is Freudian, everyone has an Oedipal complex and somehow it shows the duality of man.

Even though our numbers are few, the Engineering Departments prove to be a powerful recruiting source with their different focuses of study - Considering English, Maybe English and Eventually English, which are more commonly known as CE, ME and EE.

HISTORY



Back Row: COL Muir, COL Koons, COL Sheldon, COL Davis, COL Wilkinson, MAJ Andreeva. **Front Row:** Mr. Coffey, CPL Wineman, CPT Turner (Dept. Head), COL McCleskey, Mr. Osborne. **Not Pictured:** COL Vandervort, Dr. Harmon, MAJ Dowling, COL Koeniger

The History Major is a common breed of Cadet at VMI in a curriculum composed of different groups, including: People who couldn't get into IS, others who couldn't cut it as engineers, and those of us who are just natural procrastinators. When we came to VMI, we were told to major in what we wanted to learn about and not necessarily what would be beneficial towards employment in the post-college years. This decision has proved to be interesting when explaining to friends and family what could we possibly do with a degree in history? Teach!?

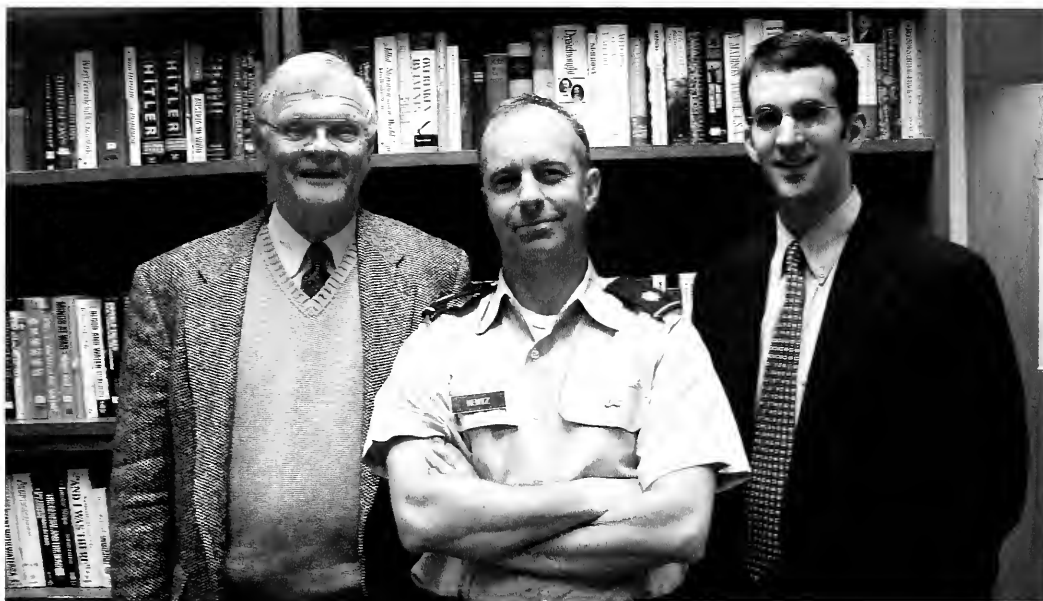
A VMI history major is required to take classes in European, Asian, African, South American, and United States history, while at the same time, struggling to get in at least a three-hour nap everyday, which is absolutely essential to survive the rigorous curriculum. Second only to psychology in most NCAA athletes per major, history accepts only the finest academicians who are serious about maintaining a 2.0 GPA.

Perhaps the most difficult of trials for history majors to endure is listening to the incessant whining from their engineer roommates about their oversized workload and impossible homework. To this we tell them that it was their choice to put themselves through that personal hell and we have no sympathy. If they hate it so much, they should have just majored in history like us smart ones did.

Apathetic? Lazy? Nah, we just enjoy studying only about a dozen nights a semester and cranking out papers at the last minute. That is when we history majors are in our finest hour.

Well, fellow HI majors, now that we've endured long hours in Scott Shipp High School, midnight cram sessions, tanning at LA Beach, and springtime trips to Goshen, all I have to say is...good luck finding a job!

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES



Dr. Ayer, LTC Hentz, Mr. Russell. **Not Pictured:** Mr. Ayres, Dr. Kiracofe, MAJ Lloyd, COL Mayerchak, MG Tait.

The ethereal hallways of Scott Shipp oft echo of memories past as voices carry up and down the long forgotten stone of the ancient foundation. Shuffling from class to class, International Studies majors find themselves hurrying in a divine circle all the while being watched by the dead eyes of the 14th Century artwork moored to the khaki walls. The students sit and endure classes about Liberalism and Realism; they absorb lectures about interactions between nations and are expected to know them to an apex that their minds may never reach.

They sift and shove through the vestibules and antechambers at the harsh ring of the bell that shrieks like a bizarre mix between a beautiful siren and horrible banshee- granting sweet relief at the end of a class, or signaling the inception of another identical block of instruction. These students of the world seek knowledge, held back by constant lack of sleep and unsettling dementia that plague the mind. Plato, Russian Nationalism, Water Conflicts in the Middle East, National Security Policy, all swirl around the ever-confused cadet, torturing, tormenting, mocking, and ever-eluding complete understanding that the student seeks.

There are some who overcome this darkness, aided by the helmet of keen intellect and the torch of caffeine-infused beverages. This helmet-torch leads only the most resolute and stalwart through the obstacles of devious ingeniousness. Requirements such as statistics and economics strain the mind of the humble IS major, but with a steady hand and a sound mind, he will emerge out of the darkness. Thus the circle of life and fate continues, ever swirling, and ever faithful.

MODERN LANGUAGES



Left to Around: COL Sunnen, COL Cerkey, COL Bulger-Barnett, LTC Dellinger, COL Harris, COL Weing, Khadija Bentouhami, Mohamed Taifi, Patricia Hardin. **Not Pictured:** BG Farrell.

The Modern Languages Department has more cadets seeking minors than majors, but that is not to say that cadets are really less involved with it than with other departments. All liberal arts majors have had classes in this department – the only department with its own Special Forces Sergeant-Major/Brigadier General, Alan Farrell. The department is also the home of perhaps the kindest and most understanding professor in Scott Shipp hall, Major Mary Ann Dellinger.

Modern Language professors frequently assist cadets with their plans and preparations for studying abroad and often lead trips themselves over the summer. Currently the department offers 5 languages – Arabic, French, German, Japanese, and Spanish.

PSYCHOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY



COL Eicher, Danielle Morris, LTC Ojure, COL Meriwether, LTC Richter, COL Gire, CAPT Hughes. **Not Pictured:** Ben Hutchens, Susan Rabern, COL RiCharde.

Many came here for a refuge away from other majors, others came here for the sun, but we all walked away knowing how to properly use SPSS. True, we did get to bed earlier than most, and we do have the highest percentage of athletes compared with other majors; however, no one else can say they have survived LTC Ojure's Cognition class or Capt. Hughes' Biopsychology.

Engineers can tell you how it was built, history majors can tell you its background, econ/business majors can tell you how much it costs but psychology majors can assess how you feel about it. Psychology teaches simple skills that a lot of people take for granted like how to deal with other people. This is a concept many engineers have trouble with.

Psychology majors may be ridiculed for various reasons; however, one can propose that they may be the smartest individuals on post. The goal of VMI is to graduate and get away from VMI. Psychology majors picked up on this early in the game and get the privilege of having fun on the way.

What exactly will one do with a psychology major, BA or BS? Graduate school is always an option and luckily the military doesn't care what your major is. Then there are medical and law school, which a lot of people fail to realize. Whatever the option, out of the three listed, one will be able to give back to the community while supporting themselves. I guess this would make psychology a very beneficial major.

BIOLOGY



"Pepe" Kessler, LTC Bell, COL Wingfield, COL Baur, LTC Stands, Marie Greene

How few of us biology majors still remain after genetics, organic chemistry, physio, morph, etc. Although there are many perks to being a bio major, like the Carroll Awards given each year, I know I will not miss the daily hike out to New Science. Each of us have pulled many an all nighter out there, whether it was to study for a final, big test, or most likely to cram the night before a morph lab practical on the muscles or circulatory system on those stinking cats and sharks. When talking about all nighters, I couldn't put it any better than you Dave, about taking so much caffeine and getting to a point where you are so tired you actually start hearing and seeing things. For the late nights studying, thank God for all the smoke breaks behind new science and the "heart to hearts" we all would have (Greg, Jon, and Jon). As for the bio teachers... Col. Wingfield, his last year here with us, the crazy man who takes the botany students for field trips out in the middle of nowhere to learn about plants, and then gets the Biology bus stuck in the mud. Maj. Bell, rat year just wouldn't be the same without him, Friday quizzes, the random jokes, rat bio lab where ironically we dissected a rat. Col. Baur, how we all got through the "Baur power hour" we will never know with genetics, physio, and biostats all on PowerPoint. Who could forget when we had to cut the heads off the poor frogs in physio lab? Col. "Pedro the Cruel" Rowe, how he got a kick out of making morph lab practicals impossible and referred to them as the "Spanish Inquisition" part I, II, and III. Maj. Stands, as it is your first year here most of us didn't get a chance to have you, but welcome to New Science. Col. Turner, there's something wrong with your medulla oblongata, bio seminar/neuroscience was very intriguing and thanks for all your support in undergraduate research.

CHEMISTRY



COL Ludt, LTC Cain, COL Jones, COL Riethmiller, COL Pharr, COL Schreiber, LTC Timmons, Eileen Hinks, Ted Grigorieff, COL Turner, Vada Sanderson

Chemistry at VMI is like drinking Drano for four years. It burns going down and out. It seems it will never end. But then you wake up from your chloroform coma to realize no matter how hard you tried, even with the degree, you're still just a chemistry nerd. But that's OK because being a chemistry major you're outnumbered by your faculty which gives you an excellent education. Leaving this place, after all the fumes breathed in and the countless chemical burns, you realize one thing: "I should have picked a different major or studied zebra fish. That way I could have won some money at the undergraduate research symposium."

MATHEMATICS & COMPUTER SCIENCE



LTC Gluck, COL Bennell, COL Bolen, COL Piegari, COL Lominac, COL Tierney, MAJ Siemers, COL Than, LTC Dewald

Math, an elitist major, so much so in fact that no math major is allowed to leave the ramparts of Mallory Hall. They are a rare commodity that must be preserved and cannot be tainted by the freethinkers of Scott Ship Hall. The remainder of this write up was carefully translated, as best as our expert cryptologists abilities would allow, from a language that only uses math.

It has been an infinitely long $.0004 \times 10^4$ years $\times 365$ days/year days, but it's gone to the limit and now it comes to a close. There have been many maximae's and minamae's held within the rooms of Mallory Hall, and all we will have are the memories. Such fond memories they are.

Only through the Σ of our efforts, encouragement, and pencil lead could we have completed The Cat Theorem:

Prove: A cat has nine lives.

Proof:

No cat has eight lives. A cat has one life more than no cat. Therefore, a cat has nine lives. QED

Only with the guidance of Maj. Siemers and Col. "The British Assassin" Bennell could we have ever successfully proved this theorem. Although we have had to adhere to a curriculum more rigid than a Mobius strip, it has all worked out for the best.

PHYSICS



Back Row: COL Dupuy, Mr. Allen, MAJ Topasna, COL Peters. **Front Row:** MAJ Topasna, LTC Vargas, Dr. Jones, Mrs. Gearhart

Looking back over the last few years with my physics brethren in mind, I hope Schrödinger was wrong. I would not want to change anything that we have gone through together. Granted there were a few classes no one should have to take, not even, we brave souls. As time moved forward, we were forced to do the unthinkable – enroll in E&M, Interfacing, and Electronics, but we braved the worst of it all and came out on top. Perhaps our ability to overcome these obstacles stemmed from the bonds we forged during the Ratline, or maybe it was all those late nights working together to create the perfect note card.

Problem: We do not know what caused our relationships to form.

Hypothesis: Late nights working on note cards for upcoming test.

Experiment: Using all that we learned in Interfacing, Metal Shop, E&M, Fortran, and Electronics we shall make the most perfect experiment, ever.

- I. Create your own 555 chip using the lathe.
- II. Using Fortran create a data file, i.e. *.dat, containing all the resistors that have ever been created, and sort them using the CRC as your guide.
- III. After all the resistors have been properly sorted, find the cross-sectional area of the moon, multiply by 18 and then divide by pi. (Hint: you should know how to do this using a penny)
- IV. Using a micrometer find the exact dimensions of the note card.
- V. Figure out how to make this all into a graph using the 555 and a del cross E plus 1 op-amp that can be bought at Radio Shack for approximately \$3.97.

If you have any questions, or simply don't understand the experiment, I'll be in my office for about an hour between now and 2036, maybe.

CIVIL ENGINEERING



COL Hoadly, CAPT Reister, Marilyn Maisano, COL Schneider, COL Buckener, COL Mullen, MAJ Bott, Michele Marlowe, COL Page

By way of inside-joke, the 1st Class Cadets of the VMI Civil and Environmental Engineering Department would like to describe a-day-in-the-life of a CE major for those either aspiring to be such or having already obtained their diploma. Therefore, *you might be a Class of 2004 VMI Civil Engineer if...*

- ..you have a stamp made with "Help Received: Miller AD" on it.
- ..you have used profanity in an email and accidentally sent it to the secretary.
- ..you have been taught all you ever needed to know about reinforced concrete in one class period by Bob Phongsai.
- ..you drove off in an institute van without paying for the gas.
- ..you know that Crystal City Café is not just a café.
- ..you rearranged your entire course curriculum so you could take as many classes with MAJ Lester as possible.
- ..you got depressed when you found out that SGM Schneider and Gunny Bott were taking over MAJ Lester's classes.
- ..you know that a "modulus problem" homework assignment is harder than any test.
- ..you know the words to "I'm Picking Out a Thermos For You."
- ..you think a piece of chalk stuck in CAPT Riester's eraser is funny no matter how many times you see it.
- ..the only movies you've ever watched in class were about death, destruction, and mud slides.
- ..you believe that "knowledge is not having things memorized, but knowing where to find them."
- ..you have seen Mohr's Circle drawn by COL Rogers more times than you have marched down during BRC.
- ..you use the Comic Sans font for more than just "Discussion Questions."
- ..you have ever *stayed up* until the five-minute call.
- ..you know that fifth-yearmen are good project partners because they will do all the work or they will be stuck at VMI for another semester.
- ..you have analyzed different sleeping techniques depending on who is teaching the class.
- ..you still think the best sleeping technique is to use your duty jacket as a pillow and utilize the stamp mentioned above.
- ..you had to take the FE. Twice.
- ..your former esteem for the college graduate has diminished considering they are giving you a degree in Civil Engineering!

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING



Back Row: Roger Childress, Gary Gearhart, COL Livingston, MAJ Squire. **Front Row:** LTC Addington, Dawn Cochrane, COL Barr

Objectives:

The objective of this laboratory was to produce electrical and computer engineering cadets that exhibit all the best qualities of both a VMI cadet and a proficient engineer. Specifically, the VMI ECE cadet will be able to work well under extreme pressure applied from all facets of life, while pursuing a state-of-the-art degree under the tutelage of an experienced faculty.

Experimental Process:

To accomplish the objectives of this laboratory the VMI ECE cadet will take the heaviest academic load possible for seven semesters. In this time the cadet will attend classes that give the cadet a firm understanding of analog and digital circuits, electronics, programming languages, computer aided design tools, physics, science, mathematics, applied mathematics, "mind altering" mathematics, English, history, economics, and systems design. In the 8th semester the ECE cadet will make use of their multitasking skills, to hone their presentation ability, catch up on missed movies, make connections with the outside world, and gain an understanding of the term "free time." We do all the above while venturing into the "center of the pain circle" with LTC Smith and communications theory. Finally, the VMI ECE cadet will walk the stage in triumph with four (or more) years of hard work under his belt, a high paying job, and the knowledge that all the blood sweat and tears have set him ahead of his peer group.

Results:

During this experiment, it was observed that the ECE cadet spent many long hours in study. Hours were spent on a single homework assignment while his BRs slept and played video games. In the nine to thirteen laboratory classes that the ECE cadet attended, he wrote more than any of his BRs. In the 145+ credit hours of class room instruction the ECE cadet did more math than a math professor would care to shake a stick at. Throughout his struggle, the ECE cadet was able to maintain military bearing, a few hobbies and a social life.

Conclusion:

The intense mental labor of the ECE cadet produced a well rounded problem solver who was not afraid to tackle any task in the classroom or up on the hill.

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING



Back Row: CAPT Sexton, Mr. Cook, COL Trandel, COL Arthur, COL Sadler. **Front Row:** COL Neel, Carlene Graves, MAJ Hyre, COL Hodges

From the first minute we entered the NEB, we encountered eccentric and extreme personalities from both cadets and faculty. Rat year was only a small taste of the pain to come. From the Lego project to the hair-dryer, we had no idea that our ratline would continue for three more years.

As a third we experienced late nights filled with the smell of Doral cigarettes. It was in Instwamentation Wab that we became aware of the significance of SR-71. While analyzing the strength of metals in Materials Lab, we also witnessed the strength of nicotine.

During second-class year, our education on SR-71 was interrupted by a trip to the E.E. dept. On this trip, we learned about Nancy, being boned for the looks on faces, and what fluorescent lights sound like during awkward in-class silences. Back in the M.E. dept, where the smell of pipe tobacco permeates the atmosphere, we saw that four-bar linkages are more dangerous than they appear! We also learned that Coriolis and Newton were 'ole fish'n pals

During first class year, construction forced us to find alternate routes into Nichols, meandering through such landmarks as C.H.U.D. Landing and Dead Hooker Corner. Between Energy Conversion and CFD classes, we saw that a geek's work is never done and no matter how many computers you have, you still won't get off the couch. Popular study time hobbies included: locking the OD in the elevator, professor impressions, and gratuitous amounts of wasted time in direct proportion with Mountain Dew.

As we leave our beloved NEB, we will take with us memories of both hard and good times into the military or industry, and we will carry with us the knowledge that if you touch SR-71 immediately after it lands, it will wemove your fvesh.

AIR FORCE



CPT Colvin, SGT Costales, SSGT Macdonald, MAJ Danas, SSGT Burke, MAJ Romaz, CPT Shea, CPT Wilbourne, CPT Galloway, COL Lynn

One of the more unexpected occurrences during the 2003-2004 academic year was the explosion of Air Force ROTC cadets, which seemed to have nearly doubled since the first class was straining back in 2000-2001. The Cadet Wing, under the leadership of Col. Robert Lynn, went from a skeletal group of commissionees to a detachment that was bursting at the seams. Rated slots (Pilot, Navigator, and Air Battle Manager) went from 1 in 2003, to 7 in 2004, and already 15 have been secured for 2005.

Interestingly enough, most of the new Air Force cadets are ex-Army cadets, who have fled the "Hooah-Motivators" in droves. When asked about the change in heart, most cadets answer to the effect of "the Army department treated me like crap, the Air Force treated me like royalty." Jokes quickly arose about the Army "refugees" seeking amnesty in the protective borders of Air Force Detachment 880, as classes (particularly the 400-levels) reached full capacity.

"The Det" says AF-option cadets, has worked tirelessly to secure commissioning slots for those who want them, and labored twice as hard to place them in the fields and bases of choice. Perhaps it was not accidental that General John P. Jumper '66 served as Air Force Chief of Staff during the "exodus" to the Air Force Department. Few cadets would willingly turn down the opportunity to take their oath of office from the man who oversaw all facets of air warfare for both Gulf War II and the Afghanistan War.

In the end, the Corps has been remarkably fortunate to enjoy the leadership of the 2003-2004 Air Force ROTC Detachment. As it stands, 22 Pilots, Navigators, and Air Battle Managers will enter the military world as products of their efforts, as will countless other able cadets who were fortunate enough to learn under their tutelage.

ARMY



4) MAJ Wranek, MAJ Larlee, CAPT Jared Cook, CAPT James Cook. (3) SGT Thorton, SGT Sherman, SGM Parks, SGT Callender, SGT Hagar. (2) SGT Goudy, Mary Proffitt, Thomas Atkinson, Larry Campbell, Kathy Ruffin. (1) SGT Powell, COL Faistenhammer (PMS), MAJ Bither, LTC Irby. **Not Pictured:** CAPT DeVarona, MAJ Freidhoff, CAPT Whitesides

The VMI Army ROTC Department is known around post as the Marshall- New Market Battalion, and it is comprised of dedicated Cadets from all four classes of the institute as well as a colorful and well meaning cadre that mentors the cadets on a wide range of topics from PT to shooting people in the face the Army Cadets hear about it all. We have several training events throughout the year where bad weather is certain and, we always have some "good training." Cadets of the Rat, Third, and Second classes are the main movers and shakers in the battalion – all our Army training leads up to summer training following our 2nd Class Year. This training takes place in Ft. Lewis, Washington, and constantly shows VMI Cadets how they match up against their peers from around the nation. The 1st Classmen live a relaxed life of advising and mentoring the younger cadets in how best to manage the tasks that lie before them. Major events of your 1st Class year include buying your uniforms, receiving your Army Branch, and finding out where you are going to be stationed for your time in the Army. No matter how miserable the weather gets or how many weekends we are forced to give up, the Cadre and Cadets of the Army Department share a common love for our nation and its Army. This bond is shared by all American soldiers of every generation and it is our link to the past and our hand reaching out to the future.

NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

OL J · T · L · PRESTON



Back Row: YNC Schemehorn, MAJ D. Laninga, LT Murphy, LT Brown, LT Powell, MAJ Wiggers, GYSGT Mercadante.
Front Row: CDR McElhannon, Janet Hermanson, Linda Connelly, Gail Ayers, COL Minor

NAVY

Being a midshipman in the NROTC unit here at VMI has been one of the most rewarding experiences in my cadetship. I have been able to grow in my professional development through the unit's very professional and regimented routine. As a midshipman you will be expected to maintain a GPA above a 2.5, participate in unit PT every week, and go on summer cruises throughout your cadetship.

These cruises are the most rewarding for midshipmen because they have a chance to experience the Navy in all its various aspects so that they may choose the career field that suits them best. While on cruise I have had the chance to deploy on surface ships and submarines, do field training with Marines, and fly in both T-34s and F-18s. Each experience was unique, and they were all rewarding.

Aside from the cruises, the most valuable part of a midshipman's professional development would have to be the interaction with the unit's officers. These are men and women who have been out in the fleet and have first hand knowledge of what goes on in their respective communities. They are always willing to help a midshipman figure out what is best for him and never have a problem sharing a few of their sea stories to let you know how things "really are." Who could forget LT Knope's galley story from his first deployment or LT Brown's story of the poor bunny rabbit from next door?

Now that my time here at VMI is coming to a close and my career in the Navy is about to take off, I look back at my time spent here and would like to thank those who helped me through. The officers here, especially in the unit, have taken me from the age of 18 unsure of what to do with myself to a confident soon to be officer in the Navy, ready to pilot the world's best aircraft and as LT Powell would say, "take steel over the beach".

MARINE CORPS

Of all the ROTC options available to VMI cadets, only one offers the shiniest and most physically fit cadets, with the shortest of vocabularies...The Marines! Through four years of Marine Corps ROTC you learn how to effectively take jocular criticism from most of your fellow cadets. But that's okay, because everyone knows they're just jealous because they only wish they could be Marine Officers...YUT!

The entire NROTC staff works hard from sunrise to sunset to effectively mold the most spasmodic cadets at VMI who appear at formations 15 minutes prior with shoes so shiny, they could blind Stevie Wonder, even more.

The first two years of ROTC for a commissioning Marine cadet are filled with really, really hard, technical Navy classes where they have to learn about radar and other stuff. Second class year is the culmination for Marines. Cadets participate in Bulldog by running, doing close order drill, going on long marches, and learning the true meaning behind "hoorah." This is also the same year more cadets join the class, after the army stops paying them their uniform stipend and starts assigning them papers to write.

Cadets attend a six week summer of fun at Officer Candidate School and receive highly motivating Marine training. After a cadet graduates OCS and comes back to VMI to finish his senior year, he fills his time with countless, exciting stories about OCS and has earned the right to cross his arms, with his sleeves rolled tight on his too-cool-for-you digital cammies, and let everyone know that he is way better than them.

The Marine ROTC Cadet at VMI is a unique brand of cadet, and it's hard to miss him, whether he is singing the Marine's Hymn, shouting HOORAH!!, he is letting you know, that HE is the best.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION



Back Row: COL Coale, CPT Powell, LTC Cairns. **Front Row:** COL Richardson, COL Caukins, CPT Joyce.



CLUBS

Many clubs fell by the wayside this year with the advent of mandatory intramurals. Gone are the days of rock climbing or power lifting during military duty, now there are scant few options for cadets between 1615 and 1745 hours. Still, some clubs did get their permits approved by LTC Levenson, while others chose to press on without their usual military duty time slot. The stalwart organizations that follow represent what is left of the once robust club system.

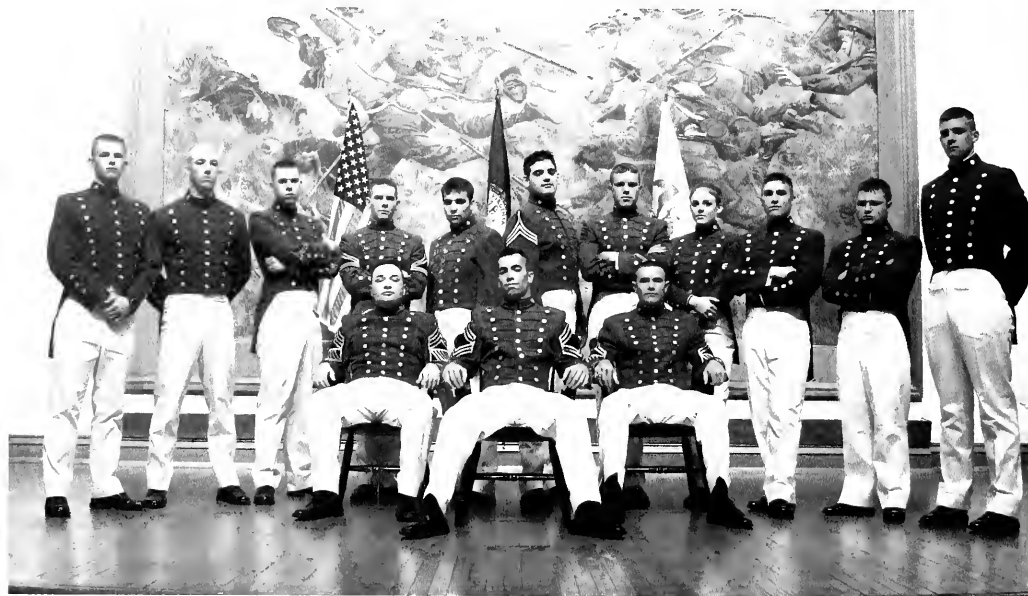
BOXING



The Boxing team with General Peay after the National Championships, where it placed fourth.

THE BOXING TEAM is an all volunteer club sport that competes on the national level with over 40 colleges making up three regions under the supervision of the NCBA, a subset of the USA Boxing Association. The 2003-2004 team was coached by Mr. Kelly Underwood, '00, with Cadet Anthony Peters, '04, serving as the team captain and cadet-in-charge. Approximately 25 cadets make up the core group of boxers that practice daily and work individually outside of the gym to be competitive. Seven VMI boxers attended the NCBA Eastern Regionals and six of those qualified to attend the National Tournament in Reno, NV in April of 2004. **VMI had two National Champions, Cadet Peters and Cadet Todd Wilson, '06**, and placed 4th as a team. This is the most success VMI Boxing has had since 1988.

THE CADET



Back Row: Rat Moeller, J. Bishop, Shaun Jones, JB Thompson, Joel Andrus, Chuck Karamon, William Angle, Margaret Smith, Rat Richardson, Rat Mcelroy, G. Quillen. **Front Row:** Daniel J. Cragg, Charles R. Munn, Aaron W. Childers.

What can I say about the *Cadet*? Its not so much a club as it is a family (think the *Sopranos* family rather than your Ned and Stacy household, John Noonan is nice, but I like my ladies a tad thinner.) When I came to the *Cadet* as a tyrannical cadre corporal, the atmosphere made me what I have become today: thoughtful, inquisitive, and tyrannical. Taking the reins as EIC as a 2nd, an unprecedented event, I quickly moved as much stereo equipment, big screen TVs, couches, microwaves, and other luxury items to the 300 level of Maury-Brook Hall. I claimed this land, and it laid the foundation for the Publication Fraternity that sprung out of the permanent residency that my management brought our building. Times were tough at first, but I whipped the paper into something somewhat reputable, while still enduring heat for the ever-controversial humor page. Having taken everything the commandant, acting supe(s), and other self-important on post could dish out, I returned to VMI as a 1st classman nigh untouchable. From my office I ruled VMI by decree, with a following that could reach and influence the entire VMI community. I took the *Cadet* out of a dark age. But looking back, I realize that winners really do write the history books. Having personally written the last 2 years of VMI history, I only hope that in the future, cadets can look back to the old copies of the *Cadet* in the library, and know what we did here. Leaving a legacy is hard at a place like VMI, but I feel that I accomplished this noble goal. So, like Ozymandious, my legacy is carved on a eroding stone. As VMI changes, the class of '04 will soon become a footnote, eclipsed by more important changes to come. But in the here and now, I salute my organization, its people, and all we have done in our time here.

To the Future,
Charles R. Munn IV
Editor-in-Chief 2002-2004

CADET INVESTMENT GROUP



CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



Tripp Pumphrey, Tom Stevenson, Brenton Underwood, Tim Helmick, James Wicker. Not pictured: Jeff Durham, Ben Mowery.

THE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE'S purpose is to preserve the history of the American Civil War and its battlefields, to study and preserve the history of VMI involvement during the war and to preserve the memory and honor the soldier from both the Union and Confederacy through reenactments and living history.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM AND LEXINGTON RESCUE SQUAD



EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

The VMI ERT provides medical support for all events at the Institute. Founded in 1994, the Team works at all functions during the ratline, Corps Runs, or any other event where their presence is requested. Through its existence the ERT has continued to improve in training and quality of care and provides an excellent opportunity for those with Emergency Medical experience to practice their skills during their cadetships.

Brad Haywood - CIC
Aaron Wallace - ACIC
Kye Wall
Jason Durr
Bryson Gambill
Matt Tamillow
Josh Simulcik
Robert Ricadela
Allen Coones
Matt Noreus
Steve Souchtchenko
Jon Glasscock
Dan Ervin
Steve Varanko

LEXINGTON RESCUE SQUAD

The cadet members of the Lexington Rescue squad donate at least one night of their weeks to provide Emergency Medical Services to the citizens of Lexington and the surrounding Rockbridge county area. Although no experience is required to become a part of this organization, the majority of the members have certifications as Emergency Medical Technicians, as well as further training past the basic level. This organization provides interested cadets with an opportunity for medical experience, while giving back to the community that VMI is a part of.

Brad Haywood - CIC
Bryson Gambill - ACIC
Kye Wall
Trista Hays
Jason Durr

FIRE FIGHTERS



Patrick Heiny, Brenton Underwood, Eric Bliss. Not pictured: Matt Tamillow

ADJET MEMBERS OF THE LEXINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT (LFD) provide response to all emergency calls in the city of Lexington as well as a major portion of Rockbridge County to include structure fires, vehicle fires/accidents, hazardous material spills, and other life threatening hazards.

GLEE CLUB



THE PHILOSOPHY CLUB



Daniel J. Cragg, LTC Richter, Joel W. Andrus (President), David K. Bhatta

PUB FRAT



Back Row: J. Bishop, Rat Moeller, JB Thompson, Rat Czupryna, William Angle, Aaron Childers, Shaun Jones, Rat Mcelroy, Rat Richardson, Maragert Smith, G. Quillen. **Middle Row:** John O. Noonan, Charles R. Munn (Co-President), Daniel J. Cragg (Co-President), Joel W. Andrus, Laura Mack. **Front Row:** Chuck Karamon, Mike Gregory.

THE DENIZENS OF THE 300 LEVEL OF MAURY-BROOKE ARE A RARE BREED OF CADET. Sure, they publish a newspaper and a yearbook, but they also spend countless hours playing Halo, order more Pizza than any other organization in Rockbridge county, and break all the rules without getting caught. For two years, members of this elite fraternity have enjoyed a relaxed form of dress, couches, TVs, and refrigerated beverages while somehow still managing to improve both of their publications and enjoy friendly relations with the Commandant's staff.

PRE-LAW SOCIETY



Daniel J. Cragg, LTC Richter, Michael Tittermary

SEMPER FI



President: Brian Trueblood
Operations Officer: J. Coleman II
Secretary: John Streetman

SEMPER FI SOCIETY is an organization that is comprised of students who are interested in becoming Marine Corps Officers. This club strives to promote military education by having marines speak to the club and through relating their experiences to them. Club members also participate in fund raising and charity events.

TIMBER FRAMERS



TIMMINS-GENTRY MUSIC SOCIETY





From *Little Boy Messes*
To RAT Masses
 My How Time Passes!



Congratulations!

William G. Saunders, Jr.

&

Thomas Wilson Beale

VMI Class of '04

We Are All So Proud Of You!

Our Love and Best Wishes,

Mom and Dad Saunders

Mom and Dad Anderson

Wendy and Shea Spain

Jennifer and Charlie Britt

Ashley Anderson

May God Bless Both Of You



WHO'S WHO

IN AMERICAN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

The 2004 edition of "Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities" includes 34 VMI cadets, who were selected "based on their academic achievement, service to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities and potential for continued success." They join an elite group of nationally recognized leaders culled from all 50 states and more than 2,300 colleges and universities.



Bree Adams



Joel Andrus



John Casper



Edward Chen



Lincoln Clark



Ryan Consaul



Daniel J. Cragg



Hrvoje Glasnovic



Jillian Hafer



Mark Hamilton



Morgan Harris



Benjamin Hassell

Not pictured: Peter Dreisbach and Richard Connaroe



Eric Hepfer



Roderick James



Leigh Lindenmuth



Jaden Lowry



Michael McLaughlin



Matthew Mikula



Benjamin Nehrke



Matthew Park



David Poldiak



Joshua Powers



Timothy Price



Jason Quash



Jessica Remick



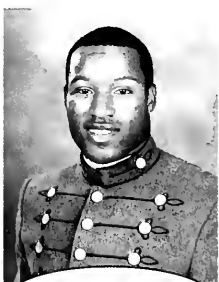
Daniel Ropp



Matthew Sharpe



William Simmons



TJ Snelling



Ryan Taylor



Nadia Wendlandt



Matthew York

SPORTS



FOR WHEN OUR LINE STARTS TO WEAKEN, OUR BACKS FAIL TO GAIN,

OUR ENDS ARE SO CRIPPLED, TO WIN SEEMS IN VAIN;

THE CORPS ROOTS THE LOUDEST, WE'LL YET WIN THE DAY.

THE TEAM IT WILL RALLY AND FIGHT-FIGHT-FIGHT! RAY!

WE'LL GAIN THROUGH THE LINE AND WE'LL CIRCLE THE END

OLD RED, WHITE AND YELLOW WILL TRIUMPH AGAIN;

THE KEYDETS WILL FIGHT'EM AND NEVER SAY DIE;

THAT'S THE SPIRIT OF VMI.

Often times VMI Sports and their Athletes rate with the Corps and the Admin about as well as their records. They single handedly dominate both morning PTs and SGM's Inspection Platoon, but this does not mean that they do not work as hard, and often times harder, than the rest of the Corps. They are dedicated to their sport, and no matter how much they may be down, they always fight till the end. This is what makes VMI Athletes different than those at other schools. Even though our fight song anticipates defeat, we do not accept it willingly, and at the very least, we are good at talking trash.



NOTE: many photos in this section are courtesy of Sports Information located on Post in Smith Hall.

FOOTBALL GOES 6-6

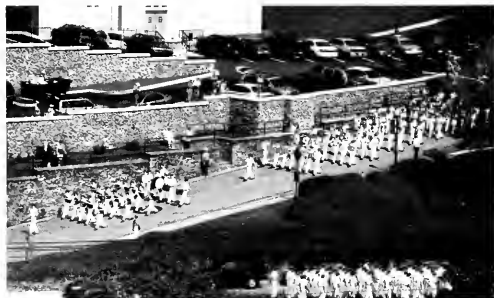
Tailgating, Saturday parades, mandatory attendance -- yep it must be football season. This year was the Keydets' first year in the Big South Conference, and also the first time the Keydets have had two consecutive non-losing seasons since 1976-77.



There was absolutely no alcohol at this tailgate...*sure*.



The Corps roots the loudest.



at Wake L 10-37
 at Davidson W 34-9
 vs William & Mary L 34-34
 vs Norfolk State W 34-9
 vs Georgetown W 42-14
 at Liberty L 28-31
 vs Charleston Southern W 50-7
 vs Gardner-Webb L 25-37
 at Richmond L 25-35
 at Coastal Carolina W 19-10
 vs Austin Peay W 48-7
 vs The Citadel L 23-27



The rats sprint to their post.

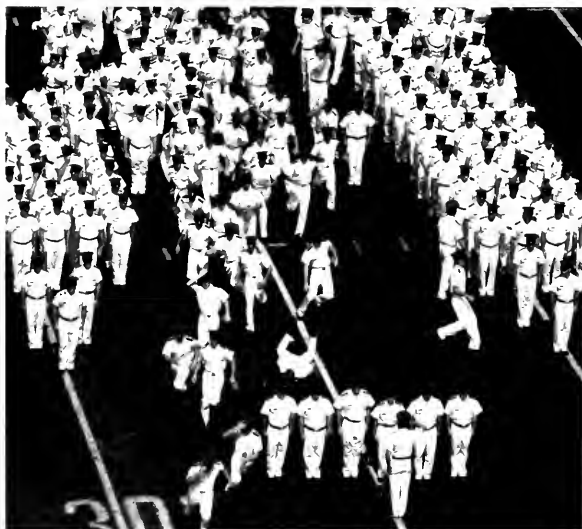




VMI 34, NORFOLK STATE 9



Above Right: Rats cheer as the football team runs through the gauntlet. Right: Peter Kent '04 in "Golf Dyke."



Rats can't even run without messing up. Strain.

VMI 42, GEORGETOWN 14



Left: Cadets' favorite part about football games. No, it isn't the rats pushing.



Above: Rich Connaroe '04 sets off Little John after the Keydets score.



Right: Rats rush out of the stands to do push-ups in support of their team.



VMI 50, CHARLESTON SOUTHERN 7



Above: Rats push after a touchdown. **Below:** The Air Force Silent Drill Team performs during half-time.



Left: The Rat Mass cheers the Keydets on to victory. **Right:** Matt Sharpe, about to score the extra point.



VMI 48, AUSTIN PEAY 7



Chris Richman '04 shows enthusiasm for the VMI Keydets as they rise to victory.



Josh Wright's nephew pushes with the rats after a touchdown.



Matt Sharpe '04 makes another point after touchdown.



Former Superintendent Josiah "Super Si" Bunting, III, '61, with Colonel Eric Hutchings, '77.

UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND

CORPS TRIP -- VMI 25, UoFR 35

The Corps traveled to Richmond to attend the VMI-University of Richmond football game on 25 October where the Keydets fought hard but lost 25-35. There was a large turn out of VMI alumni and UR alumni. It is estimated 9,221 people attended the game with possibly a larger group of VMI fans than UR fans. After the game the Corps was given a free weekend. It was an eventful game with many broken records and surprises.

Upperclassmen were allowed to leave Friday afternoon after classes; the Rats and the rest of the Corps that did not have transportation traveled by bus on Saturday morning.

The game kicked off with VMI taking a 3-0 lead when Matt Sharpe kicked a 26-yard field goal early in the first quarter. The UR Spiders came back to score a 7-3 lead with a touchdown in the 2nd quarter by David Edwards, a career-high of 75 yards and 24 carries.

The Keydets scored again with a 10-7 touchdown but lost the lead when they failed to score in the last seconds of the first half. VMI moved the ball up to the Spider's 4-yard line with only seconds left in the 1st half. With 30 seconds on the clock, and the Keydets at the one yard line, the UR Spiders' defense blocked the Keydets' two running attempts before the horn, letting the Spiders lead 14-10 into the 2nd half.

Richmond scored three more in the second half with VMI trailing with only two more, ending the game 35-25. In an after game interview, Head Coach Cal Macombs said, "It was one of those games that had everything in it but came a little short at the end of the deal. I think I can do a better job managing the game...use time outs [better], specifically the touchdown attempt before the half."

Despite the loss, the Keydets had some great accomplishments during the game as Coach Macombs pointed out in an e-mail to the Corps of Cadets. Derik Screen had 19 tackles and was named Choice Hotels' Big South Defensive Player of the Week and Musa Sarki had two interceptions. Marcus Barnes had 10 tackles, 2 sacks, and 1 tackle for a loss with 3 turnovers for the defense. The offense did a great job meeting their match with the longest rush going to Sean Mizzner for 267 yards with an offensive total of 825 yards.

After the game the entire Corps was released to take a free weekend. Some returned to barracks to catch up on sleep or work, while the majority spent the rest of the weekend at home with loved ones, or at surrounding colleges to get a taste of real college life.





Derek Raymond '04 and Matt Vogel '04 cheering on the crowd.



Rats last ditch effort to motivate the team by switching to "rally-caps."



The L-Train showing the proper push-up technique.



Will Ray '05 showing his support for the Institute.



Harrison Gregory '04 and Josh Mulford '04 pointing out the obvious flaw in the ref's call.

CHARLOTTE CORPS TRIP

VMI 23, CITADEL 27

The 61st annual Military Classic of the South, a long-standing tradition between two military college rivals, Virginia Military Institute and The Citadel, was held in Charlotte, North Carolina's American Legion Memorial Stadium on Saturday, November 15, 2003. The Military Classic is considered one of the South's best rivalries and is the culmination of the football season for both schools. In attendance this year were the corps of cadets from each schools, military leaders, and hundreds of alumni and fans.

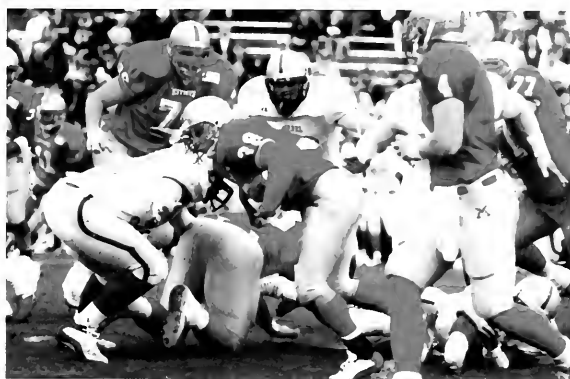
Each of the two military schools marched into the stadium and recited their school's song. Following this was the presentation of the colors, the national anthem, a low passing B-1 bomber flyby, and an aerial performance from four parachutists.

"The Corps proved the greatest fact of the Institute that day. It's not about the uniforms, it's not about the formations, and it's not about the buildings, it's about the Cadets. It's all about the Cadets. It's about the people who make up the Corps. That's where the true pride comes from," said First Class President Jason Quash.

The Military Classic of the South was, without a doubt, the most intense game of the season for the VMI Keydets. Morale in the stands started out high when VMI brought in the first touchdown towards the end of the first quarter after a 70-yard drive and an interception that resulted in a penalty. The see-saw scoring that took place during the rest of the game was thrilling for all VMI supporters; as VMI scored, the Citadel would quickly return the favor. Having been tied for most of the game, the Citadel finally pulled ahead of the Keydets in the last few seconds of the fourth quarter, much to the dismay of everyone on the VMI side. The mood in the stands was tense until Robert Mason blocked the extra point and ran the length of the field for what was thought to be a touchdown and created mass chaos in the VMI stands, but it turned out to only be a safety. In any event, the Keydets played well and hard, showing their fellow cadets, fans, and onlookers what it means to be from the VMI.

"It was the kind of ball game I expected it to be; I like playing here in Charlotte. I think the neutral site for this game is good for both teams. Military Classic of the South...was a hard fought football game. Our kids came up on the short end of the stick, but they never quit. Even when they scored the go-ahead touchdown at the end, we blocked the extra point and took it back for two. I told our guys at halftime time to prepare yourself for the last snap, and it almost did. The team that got a few breaks and made a few plays was going to win the game. That's been the story of our season," Coach Cal McCombs said.





Bands rats showing the Citadel Cadets what they learned at VMI.



Above Right: Sam Lagrone '03-B either shows his game face or an impression of a chipmunk. **Right:** What is Col. Hammond doing not sending out an e-mail?

Below: The Keydets discuss last minute strategies on the sidelines.



**Congratulations Cadet Adam K. Stetson
and your BRs, Class of '07
VMI Breakout, January 24th 2004**



*Perseverance and persistence in spite of all
obstacles distinguishes the strong soul . . .*

Congratulations

**ON AN AMAZING EFFORT - you're the MAN!
Love Mom and Dad & the entire family.**



CONGRATULATIONS

ROOMMATES OF 233, CLASS OF 2005

CORRADO, DROWN, SPARKS, MACHHI, CHEN



ON ACHIEVING THE RING!



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Solutions That Work

Congratulations, Matt!
It's been a long four years with a
few challenges along the way. We
are very proud of you and your
determination. Good luck as you
begin a new Chapter.

We love you.
Mom, Dad, Emily and, of course,
Kirby, Seamus & Newspaper
and all the Cows of Rockbridge
County!
MOOOOOO!



CONGRATUALTIONS CHRIS!
YOUR PATH IS LESS TRAVELED AND MORE
CHALLENGING. YOU FACED THE CHAL-
LENGES AND CONQUERED.

PRIDE & LOVE,
MOM, DAD, JEFF AND JASON



Cadet Matthew. S. Hopchak

Congratulatoins Matt!

The "Rat" year is behind you.
One "Down," three to go!

With Love and our support,
Dad & Mom, Nick, Dan, Mike and Jacqueline, "Uncle" Carl &
"Aunt" Carol Horn.



**Congratulations
Dan.**

**We are proud
of you and your
accomplishments
at the Institute.
The best is yet to
come!**

**Lots of love from
all the Craggs.**



THE VMI MUSEUM



THE MEMORY OF THE INSTITUTE

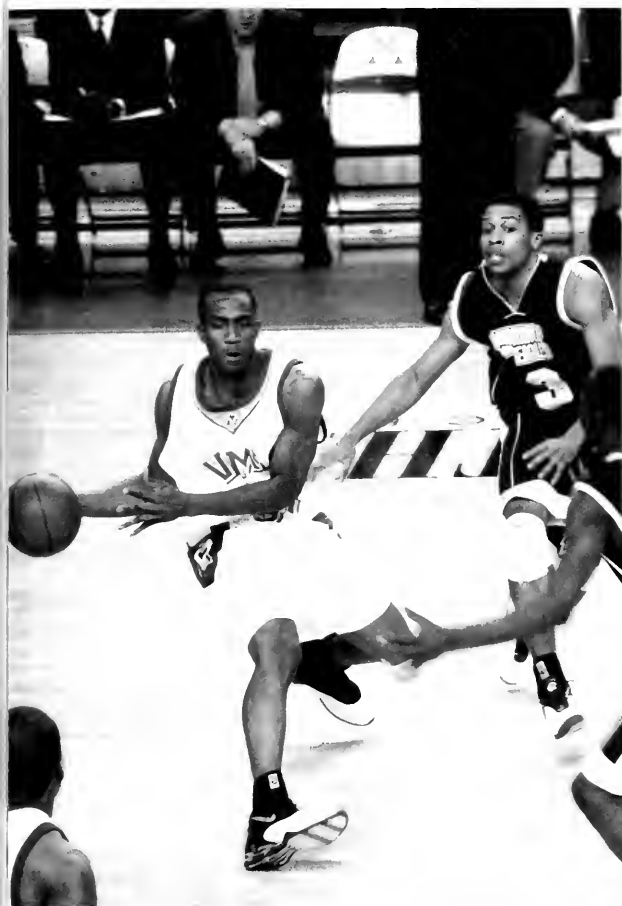


RUGBY



BASKETBALL





WIN - 5

**SOUTHERN VIRGINIA -
VIRGINIA -
EASTERN MENNONITE -
ST. FRANCIS -
RADFORD -
BIRMINGHAM-SOUTHERN -
COASTAL CAROLINA -
CHARLESTON SOUTHERN -
WINTHROP -
UNC ASHEVILLE -
LIBERTY -
HIGH POINT -**

LOSS - 21

**L 63-72
L 56-78
W 107-94
L 62-66
W 69-58
L 49-82
L 32-49
W 53-50
W 68-61
L 44-60
W 61-52
L 75-76**

WOMEN'S SOCCER



WIN - 4

LOSS - 12

BRIDGewater -
RANDOLPH-MACON WOMEN'S -
COLLEGE

W 4-0
W 3-0

MERCER -
RADFORD -
SOUTHERN VIRGINIA -
HIGH POINT -

L 0-3
L 1-6
W 5-0
L 1-3



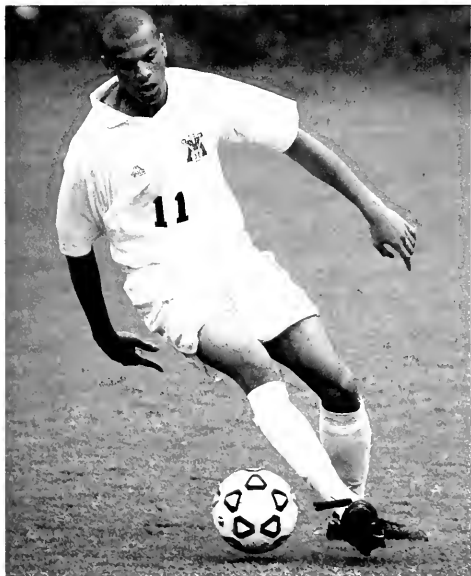
MEN'S SOCCER

WIN - 4

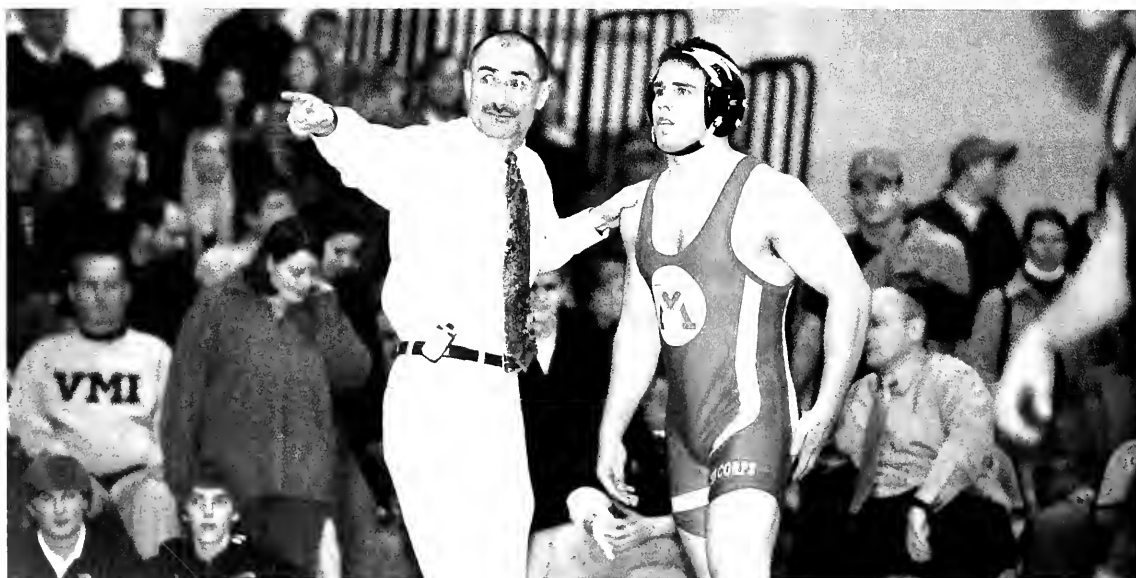
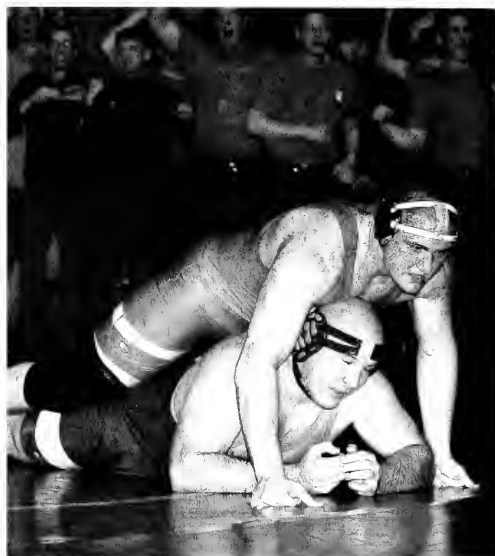
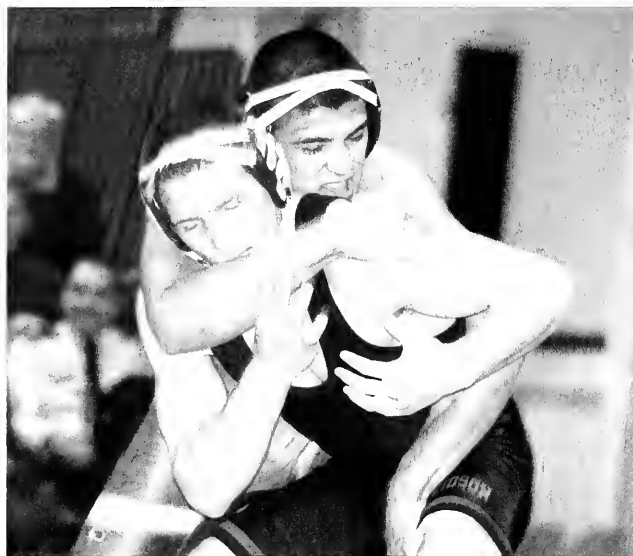
LOSS - 15

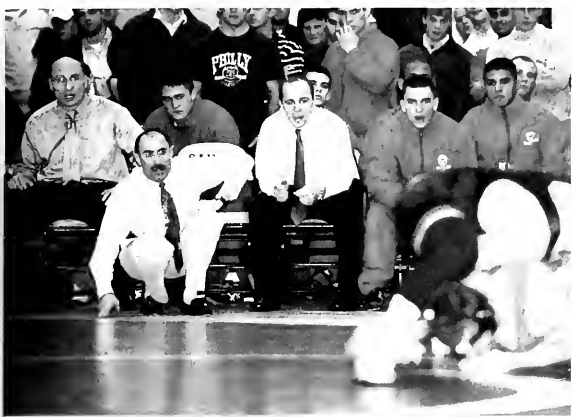
SOUTHERN VIRGINIA -
 LONGWOOD -
 PHILADELPHIA UNIVERSITY -
 MANHATTAN -
 HIGH POINT -
 GEORGETOWN -
 UNC ASHEVILLE -
 MARSHALL -
 WINTHROP -

W 9-1
 L 1-2
 W 1-0
 W 4-1
 L 1-2
 L 0-4
 L 2-3
 W 2-0
 L 0-3



WRESTLING





WON - 6

LOSS - 7

DAVIDSON -

W 23-19

GARDNER-WEBB -

W 38-9

JAMES MADISON -

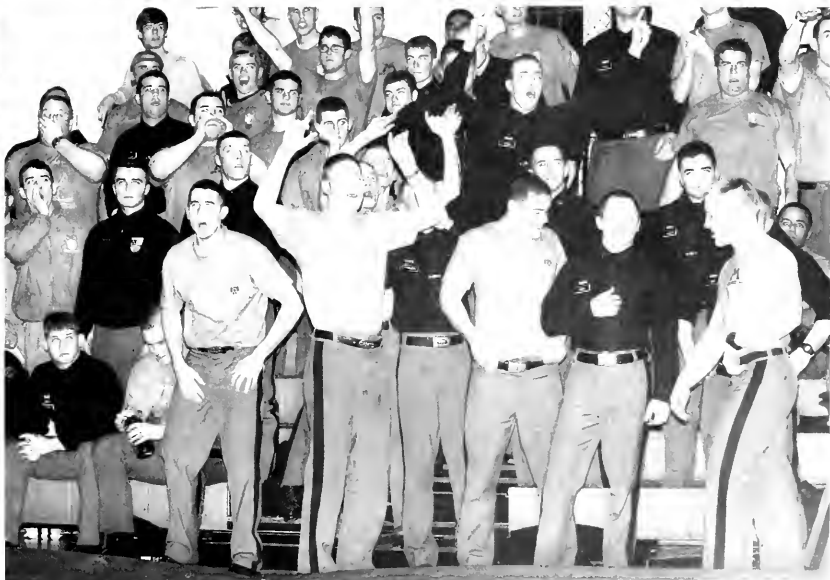
W 43-0

CHATTANOOGA -

L 15-25

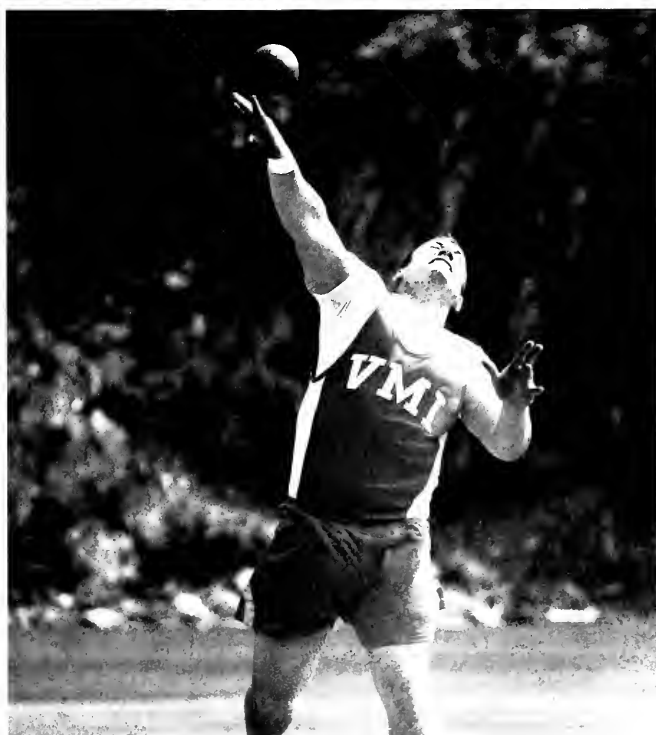
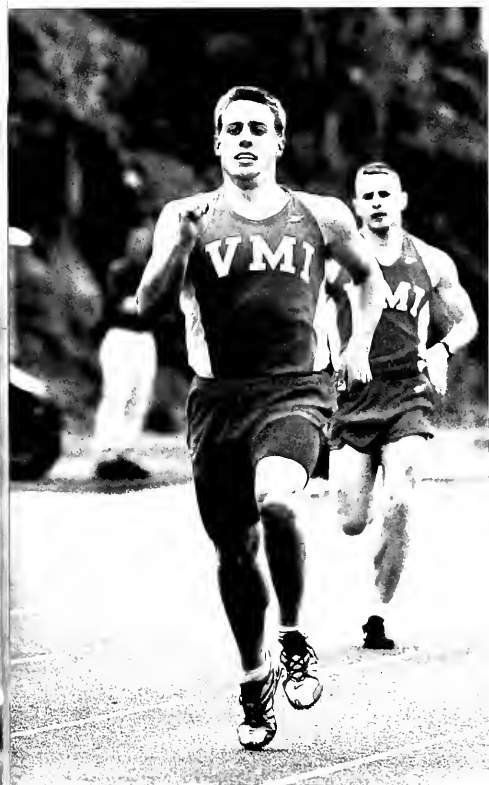
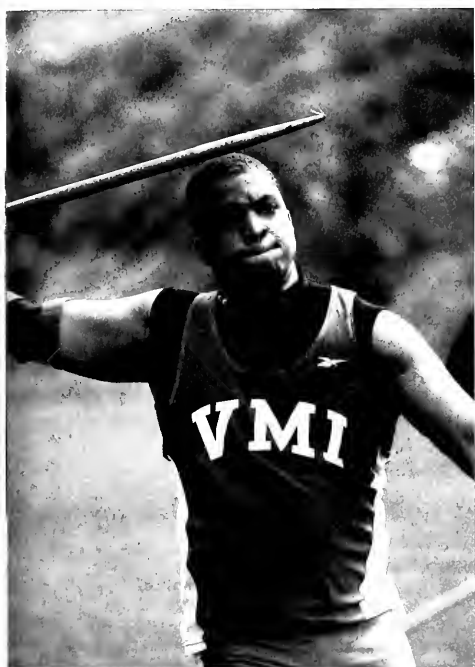
THE CITADEL -

L 10-25

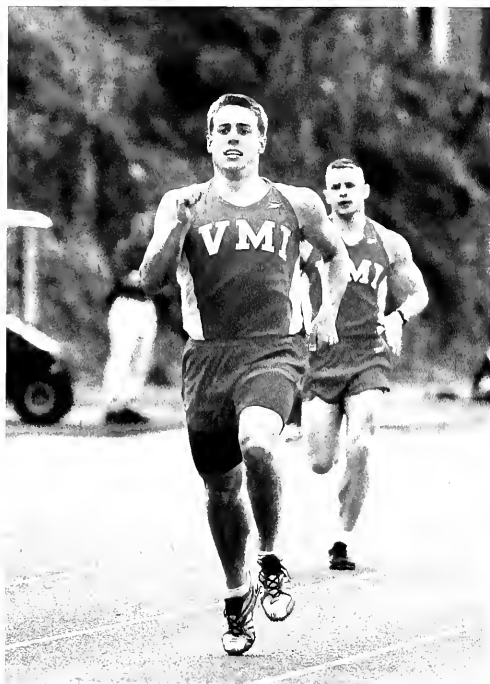


TRACK & FIELD

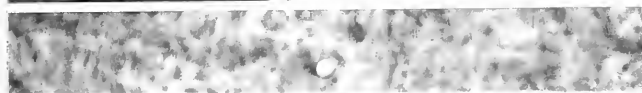




TRACK & FIELD



BASEBALL



WIN - 18

LOSS - 16

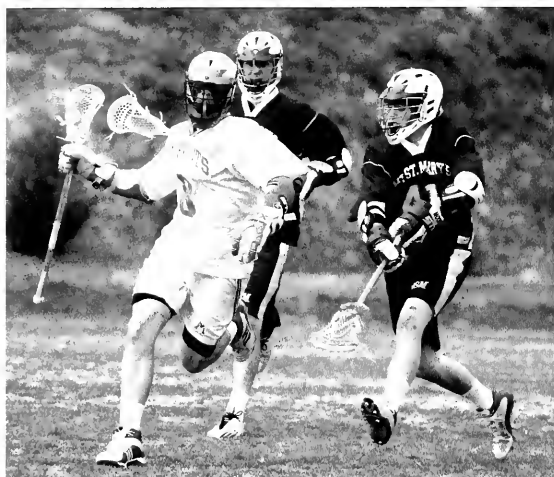


COPPIN STATE -
LAFAYETTE -
NORFOLK STATE -
BINGHAMTON -
BROWN -
RADFORD -
COASTAL CAROLINA -
WILLIAM AND MARY -

W 17-2
W 16-3
W 9-4
L 2-11
W 12-7
L 4-15
L 5-8
W 6-5



LACROSSE



WAGNER -	L 4-5
ST. JOSEPHS -	L 12-13
MOUNT ST. MARY'S -	L 12-18
W&L -	L 4-15
MARIST -	L 6-8



From Start.....To Finish



and...

**Everything in-between,
You have always run with
your dreams –
Now Fly High With Them!**

*We love you. God bless.
Your very proud,
Mom & Dad*



Mark L. Hamilton
Alpha Co. Cmdr. '04
2nd Lt. U.S.A.F.



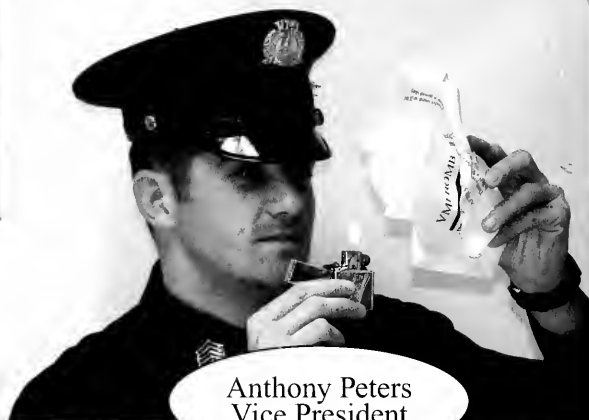
HIGH CRIMES

The **NUMBER 1**. In many respects, this penalty transcends normal punishment. It is more akin to a badge, an additional rigor, a test of an individual. 15 demerits, four months of barracks confinement, and 60 penalty tours constitute a lengthy and difficult test. Men and women who are privileged with the alcohol endorsement #1 must also serve the dreaded condition of conduct probation for a year. Penalty Number One is often the consequence for normal behavior expected of a college student, granted other times it is given for actions a little out of the ordinary. The actions taken by the men and women on these pages are all a little wild, and in some cases hilarious.



Sarah Johnson
President

Sarah Johnson – **CONVICTED**: Unauthorized in-county weekend at Lexington Jail. After drinking until she could not remember anything, proceeded to get in “yelling” fight with W&L alumnus over the merits of co-education and then took out her rage on an innocent gas station sign. Arrested ten feet away from limit’s gates. Result: Double jeopardy; served community service, attended alcohol classes, and got the A-1 to boot.



Anthony Peters
Vice President

Anthony Peters – **CONVICTED**: Recipient of the first desk-pounding, temple-throbbing, spit-flying lecture from the then new Commandant, Colonel Eric Hutchings only one week into school for lighting on fire what the BRF-Troop rats believed to be Echo company’s spirit banner. Unfortunately, the banner turned out to be Hotel’s. According to the Commandant, he could have “charred down a national historic landmark.” Result: responsible for near permanent “F” burned into stoop in front of 335.



Mariah Green – **CONVICTED**: Has no memory whatsoever of Ring Figure weekend or being boned. Result: Took a ride on the L-Train anyways.



Charles Munn – **CONVICTED**: Lost at Major Bissell’s sadistic A-1 roulette by drawing his name out of a hat. Result: His five drinking comrades got off scott free.



Natasha Davis and Vinnie Lorenza – **CONVICTED**: Caught kissing in Carroll Hall by a jealous Second. Result: Stuck at VMI together for four months.



rbroje Glasnovic a.k.a Head
CONVICTED: Failed to invite
 lajor Bissell to unauthorized
 QRB workout as a Cadre corporal
 ter consuming mass quantities
 liquid nirvana on a gloomy
 aturday. Result: Served three days
 onfinesment before amnesty. Made
 it like a bandit.



Rich Lalomia - **CONVICTED:**
 While performing Slave Labor
 Community Service FTX. room
 was tossed for drug search.
 and handle of bourbon was
 confiscated. No good deed goes
 unpunished. Result: A week
 and a half later, President Bush
 granted amnesty.



JB Rosson and Peter Bennett - **CONVICTED:** Barracks terrorism.
 Would have been better off using that MRE heater for ham slice.
 Result: Four months of roommate bonding ensued.



like Corso and Tyler Beckwith - **CONVICTED:** During first week of first class year. failed to
 de empties of an entire case of Keystone light before heading uptown for more of the Nectar of
 e Gods. Assisted back to Barracks and put to bed by Second Classmen, only to be woken up by
 aptain McCormick holding said empties. "Soooo Mr. Corso, I guess you had a good night, I am
 going to go ahead and bone you for an A-I, you can go back to sleep now!" Result: Corso received
 00+ PTs stemming from this offense, on confinement until at least late March.



Eric Waters - **CONVICTED:** Sold his previously
 confiscated cell phone to a friend and then
 "borrowed" it back. Second confiscation almost
 resulted in suspension. Result: Had to sign
 contract that said amnesty would not apply to
 himself; one of the first three cadets to march
 PTs this year.

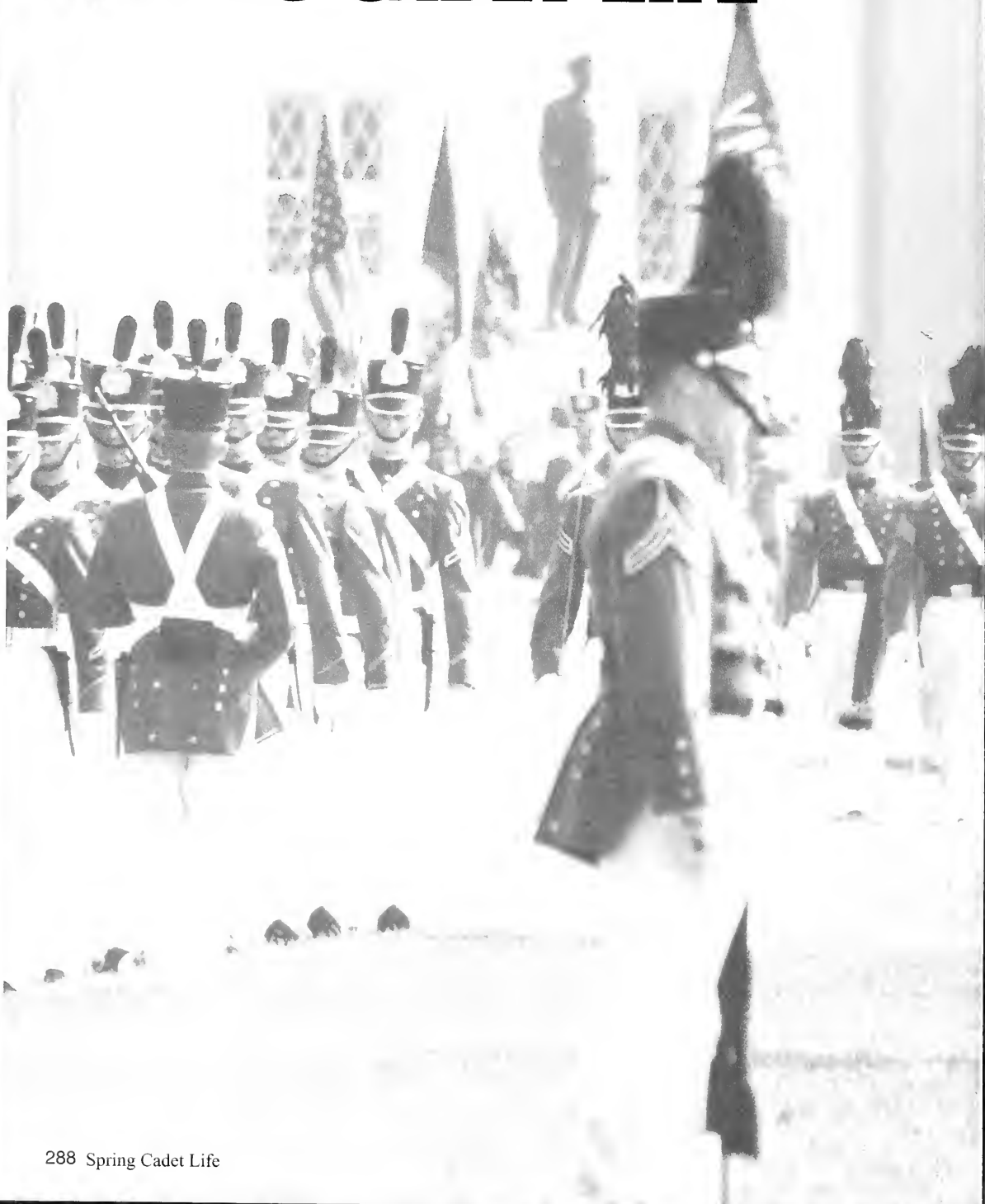


Joshua T. Fox -
CONVICTED: Fell victim
 to surprise inspection by
 Major Bissell, which netted
 gift wrapped wine and
 champagne for parents and
 empty foreign beer bottles
 meant for his collection at
 home. Result: Suspects it
 was a plot by LTC Levenson
 to obtain some "quality
 booze that he could drink at
 the end of the year 'cause
 he's sick of swiping cadets'
 Bowman's."



Sean Duggan
 - **CONVICTED:**
 Mistaken for dead by
 fat post cop and Major
 Bissell after passing
 out after returning from
 drinks at the Supe's
 house. Result: Major
 Bissell confirmed proof
 of life after poking him
 several times.

SPRING CADET LIFE



JONATHAN DANIELS COURTYARD DEDICATION

Jonathan Daniels, the Virginia Military Institute graduate who died in a 1965 civil rights confrontation, was recognized with the dedication of a courtyard and archway in his memory at VMI on March 25, 2004. A native of Keene, N.H., Daniels was the valedictorian of the VMI Class of 1961 and went on to attend the Episcopal Theological Seminary in Cambridge, Mass. He died during a bloody confrontation in Alabama in August 1965 when he pushed a black teenage

girl named Ruby Sales away from a shotgun blast. He was honored as one of 15 modern-day martyrs in the Chapel of Martyrs in England's Canterbury Cathedral, one of only two Americans to receive the honor. Above the archway connecting the Barracks with the courtyard, a quote is inscribed from Daniels' graduation address to the Institute as the 1961 valedictorian. It reads, "I wish you the decency and nobility of which you are capable."

The event at the courtyard took place between Old Barracks and Maury-Brooke Hall. At the ceremony, Ms. Donzaleigh Abernathy commented on the life of Daniels, and a three-by-four foot

bronze plaque was unveiled. Brigadier General Lee D. Badgett, Professor of Economics, former Dean of Faculty, and a "Brother Rat" of Daniels, performed the unveiling with the assistance of the GC President, Jason A. Quash '04.

The plaque reads: "Jonathan Myrick Daniels. 'One of the most heroic Christian deeds of which I have heard in my entire ministry was performed by Jonathan Daniels.' Martin Luther King Jr. On August 20, 1965, while working in the civil rights movement, Jonathan Daniels pushed aside the tending victim of the shotgun blast fired by a racist. The young African American woman was saved. Jonathan Daniels was killed instantly. In 1994, the Episcopal Church recognized Daniels at England's Canterbury Cathedral, 15 modern day martyrs from around the world are honored. Jonathan Daniels is one of them." The speech from Ms. Abernathy was one that many said they would remember forever. She spoke of the sacrifice of Jonathan Daniels to the group of guests, BRs, and cadets telling them "It is because of Jonathan Daniels I am able to stand here and speak. He has taught us how to die, like most soldiers do, but more importantly, he has taught us how to live. Young men of the Corps of Cadets, let him (Jonathan Daniels) lead you...lead us, give us strength and guidance."



FOURTH CLASS FTX

The New Cadet Military Training program conducted its third year of training with the class of 2007. This program was created in the fall of 2001 to supplement the military aspect of VMI. The new cadets were trained in a wide variety of military-oriented skills, including rifle marksmanship with the M16 A2 rifle, general military survival skills, land navigation and first aid. In general, this program has aimed at putting the "M" back in VMI for students of all ROTC services.

The skills learned this spring culminated in a field training exercise in the George Washington National Forest after exam week. In 40 groups, the fourth class navigated approximately twelve miles of rough terrain and demonstrated certain skills while en route. We operated under a scenario where the fourth classmen were escaping and evading hostile forces with the help of an indigenous guide, an upper classmen. An opposing force was emplaced to enforce the guidelines of the exercise, which was effective in accomplishing not only its mission but also in serving as a forward support unit. This year, the fourth class went farther and faster than any class before them.

The staff had a tremendous year as well. As we continue to improve this infant program, and as we strive to fully integrate NCMT to be like traditional programs such as Rat Challenge, we have gained support from the Corps. This year's ACIC, Shelby Sears, deserves distinct recognition for his tireless leadership and organization. Similarly, the S-4, Brian Bowman, magically supplied all of our training needs. Brad Haywood brought his usual charm and competence to the S-1 position, and Joel Andrus dutifully served as the S-3. Dan Crag also served as the first semester CIC while I was studying abroad and was the S-1 on FTX. SGM Neel, however, deserves the most thanks. He continues to be the backbone of this new program. He supports NCMT as a cadet-run program while providing his guidance and expertise to the instructors and staff.

Alex Sullivan
NCMT CIC



Scarlett Collins '05 briefs her squad before heading into the woods for the two-day FTX.



Left: a tired lane walker crashes at the Shady Mountain Campground after a long trek through the forest. **Above:** the Fourths soldier through the woods.

Right: the
Fourths bivouac
for the night and
light a fire using
the skills they
learned during
the semester's
NCMT training.



Left: Some
very tired
Fourth class-
men get some
much needed
rest on Sunday
night.



Right: the
first team
crosses the
finish line
on Monday
morning.



NEW MARKET PARADE

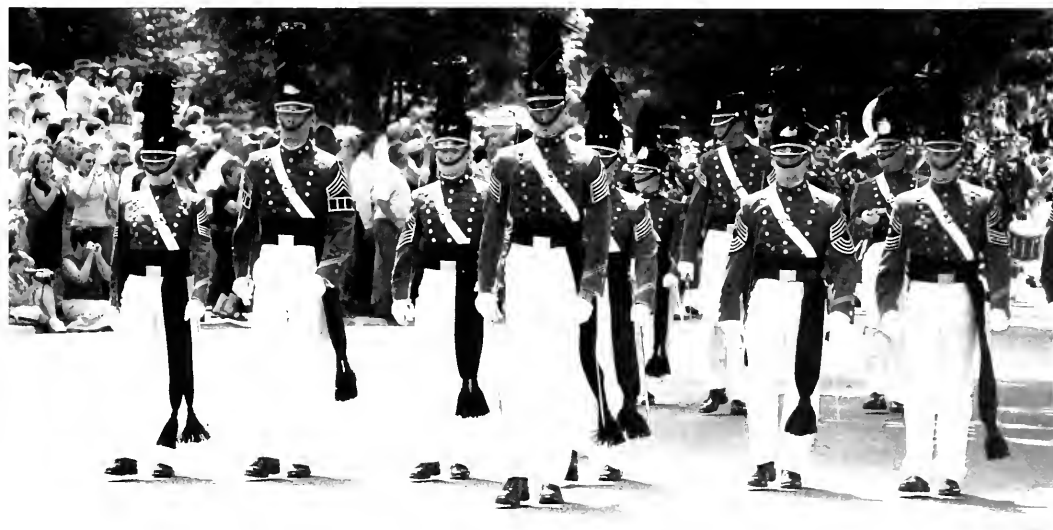
On May 15th, 1864 the VMI Corps of Cadets, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Scott Shipp, who would later become VMI's second Superintendent participated in a Civil War battle on the outskirts of New Market, Virginia. Their gallant charge turned the tide of the battle and earned honors for the Corps. It is the only time in history that the entire student body of a college or university has fought in pitched battle. Ten cadets were killed and forty-seven others were wounded as a result of the action.



ABOVE: The Colors pass by the tombs of Virginia's fallen giving an eyes right.



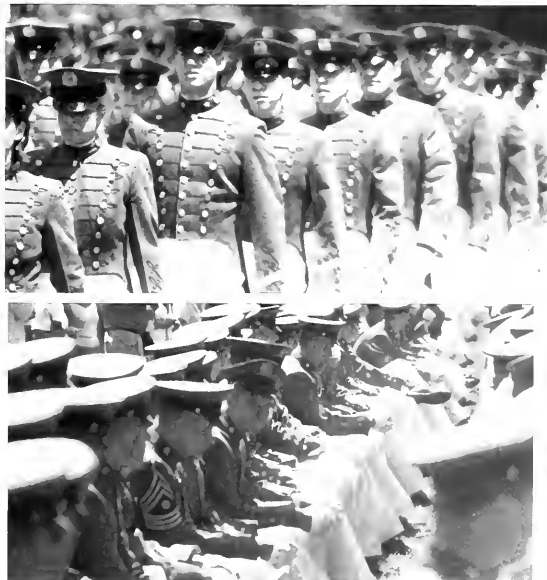
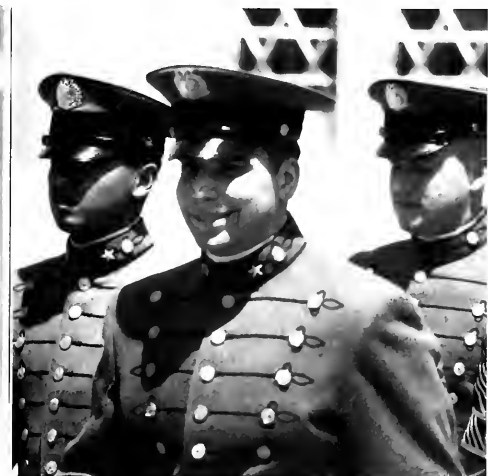
ABOVE: Cadets place flowers at the graves of four of the fallen New Market buried behind the statue of Virginia Mourning Her Dead.



COMMISSIONING



GRADUATION PARADE



COMMENCEMENT

16 MAY 2004



Mathew York (left) was elected Valedictorian by his brother rats. What follows is an abridged version of his address.

As I looked for some insight from my Brother Rats on what to speak about here today, one word came up in their suggestions more than any other — short....

Well, I've heard hundreds of speeches that began with "I will keep this short"...Considering there are little pieces of paper that symbolize our freedom sitting right over there, I plan on actually achieving this unexpected feat.

It has been a long road, and if you told me I had to do it again I would probably run out of the room screaming. But in my sprint to Route 11, I wouldn't be able to ignore the excruciatingly wonderful memories that the last four years supplied, and all in all I think we'd all say it was worth the memories.

As I researched on what to talk about here today, I ran across an idea that we have all heard hundreds of times. But I feel that we never really got the complete meaning, until now. This concept is the 'three legged stool'. We know what those three legs are supposed to represent—academics, military, and athletics, and we understand that if one of those legs broke—it would take an

incredible balancing act to keep from landing on our face. But I think we usually fail to recognize that there has to be something that holds those three legs together, the top of the stool—what those three legs support on top. I didn't realize myself until now what that top was—you, my Brother Rats. Throughout the years, as we left the Institute for various reasons, such as furloughs, weekends, or block running...we always felt mixed feelings about returning. But we always did return, time after time: and the best reason, other than insanity, I could find to explain this phenomenon is our Brother Rats. Without you guys, this place would not have been the same.

Also over the last few years, we've heard countless speeches that told us about our honor, integrity, loyalty, and the ability to be citizen soldiers. I was never able to comprehend why speaker, after speaker would mention these facts—not because they felt that we needed to be reminded to live up to these words, but because they were caught off guard by us actually living these words. They are used to being out in the real world—where these words are often forgotten dreams. As I look at the graduates in front of me—and the other members of the Corps of Cadets—I see men and women who are going to go out into the world, and slowly but surely—make a difference. I don't need to stand up here today and ask you not forget what we have learned here—because it is the cadet and more importantly the alumni that makes VMI, not VMI that makes the cadet. Each and every one of us came here living these adjectives—simply looking for an environment that would accept and stress these adjectives. In front of me is the best group of people I have ever and probably will ever see—and I don't want to see us part.

To our Brother Rats that for one reason or another are not walking the stage here today: if you would, please stand so we can acknowledge you in advance. This group of cadets that you see before you had the option to return home and live the 'good life' for the last week—but they chose to stay here at the Institute with their Brother Rats and marched numerous parades that they didn't have to march. This group truly defines the term 'Brother Rat'. As I'm sure you all know—it means a lot to us that you're here with us today—thank you.

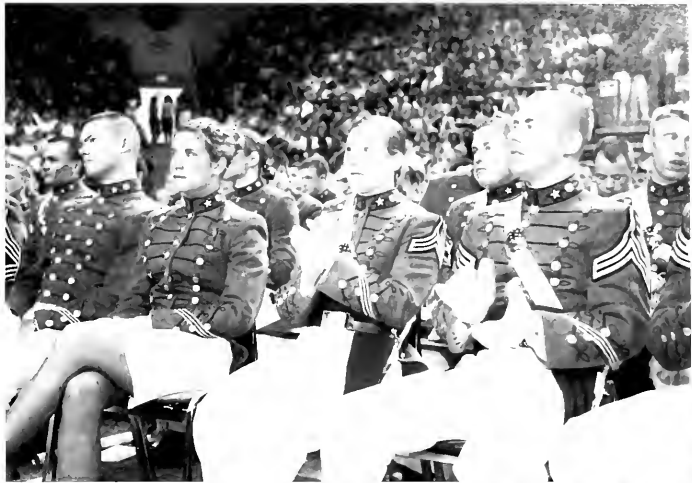
To our Brother Rats that are going into the armed services and all others that are here with us today that are serving now or have served before...we all appreciate the commitment that you have made from the bottom of our hearts. You more than any other understand that freedom isn't free, and we thank you for giving your service to our beloved nation. I would like to share with you the words of General Douglas MacArthur who said "Duty, Honor, Country. Those three hallowed words reverently dictate what you ought to be, what you can be, what you will be." End quote.

Finally, I would just like to thank my Brother Rats for giving me the opportunity to speak here today—I can say without a doubt that it has been the biggest honor of my life. I would like to leave you with a few inspirational words from Larry the Cable Guy, who said "Git-R-Done." Well, Brother Rats...we 'Got-R-Done.' Thank you, and congratulations.

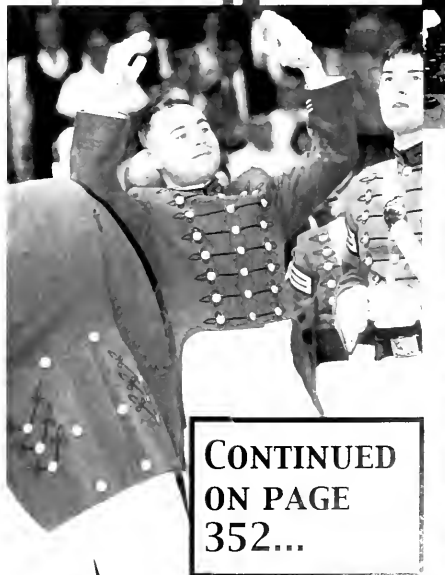
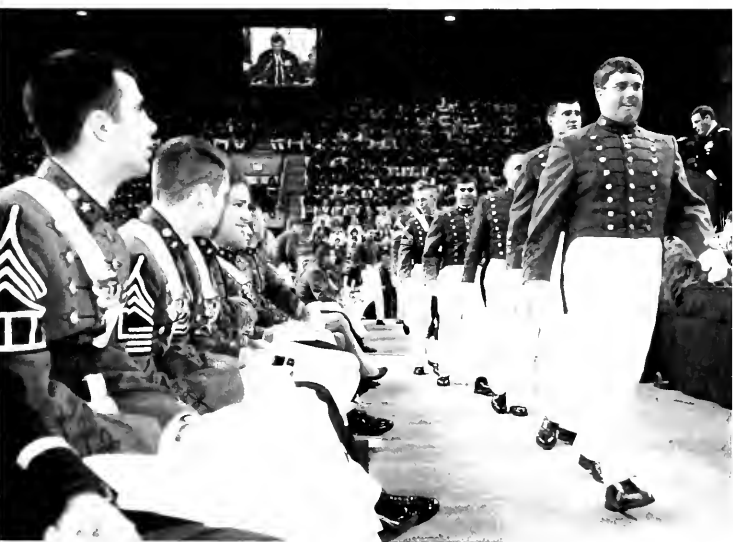




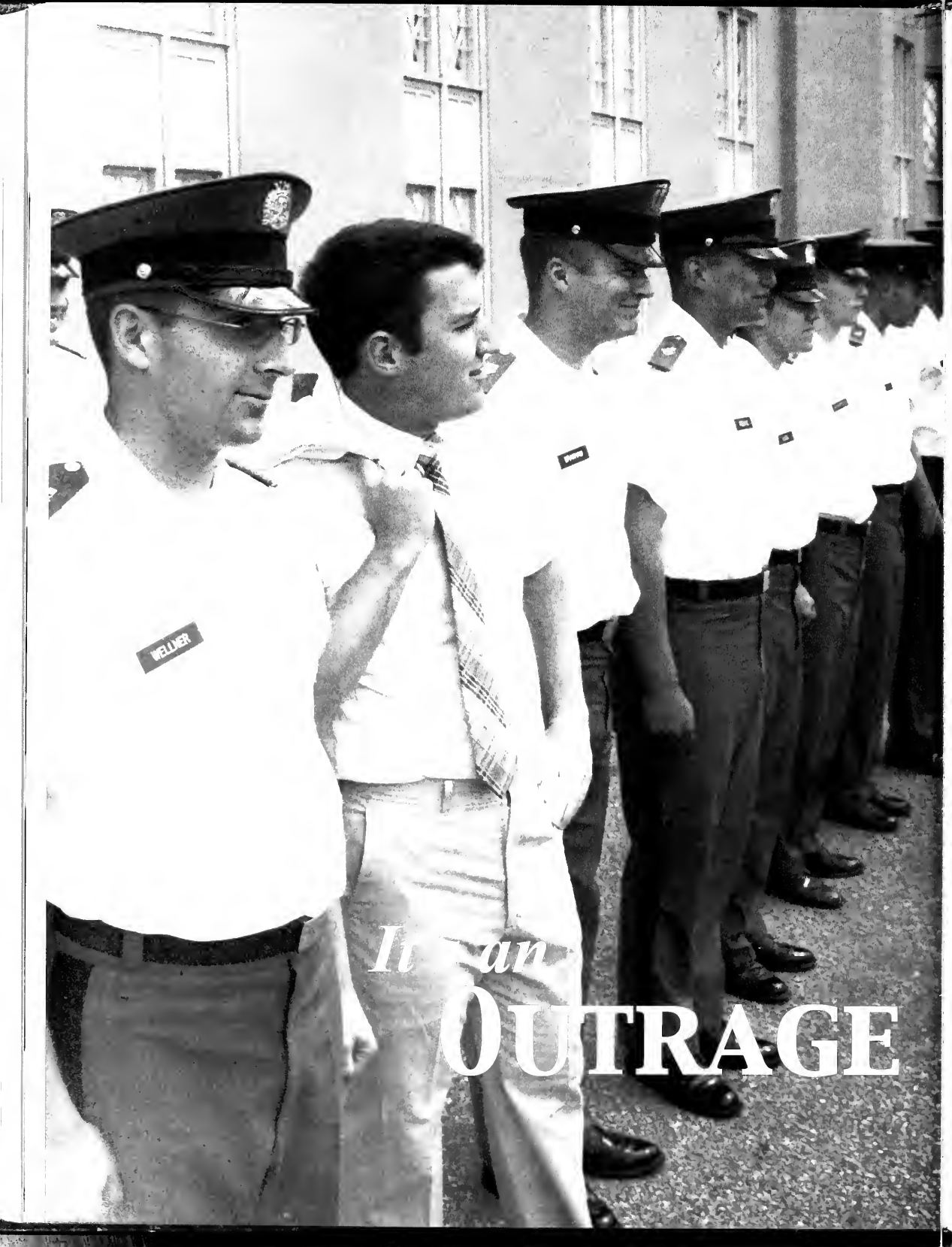
Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Richard B. Myers' commencement speech centered around the value of leadership and honor.



Almost there...



**CONTINUED
ON PAGE
352...**



It's an
OUTRAGE

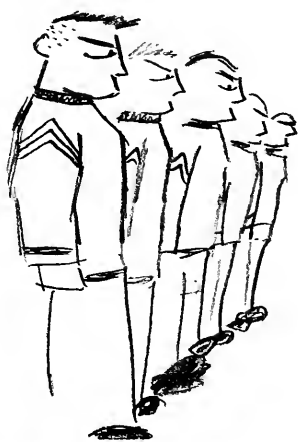
I ARRIVED AT VMI ON A HOT
AUGUST DAY, WITH A LOT OF
GRAND IDEAS IN MIND.



... Unfortunately, REALITY WAS ABOUT TO SET IN...

REALITY CAME IN THE FORM OF THE
INSIDIOUS 'MEET YOUR CADRE'
CEREMONY IN NEW BARRACKS -

... From That Point ON I DECIDED
TO KEEP MY EARS AND EYES OPEN -
AND MY MOUTH SHUT!



SIR! I...

I? I?
YOU'RE NOT A
PERSON! YOU'RE
NOTHING! WHY
ARE YOU EVEN AT
MY SCHOOL?
GO HOME!



HELL WEEK WAS PLETTY BAD...

One, sir! Two, sir! Three, sir!

... BUT WE PULLED
Through Together.
My company, DELTA
Began to GET to
know EACH OTHER.
Our CADRE, HOWEVER,
ALWAYS STAYED ONE
STEP AHEAD

THIS IS A LETTER FROM
RAT SMITH'S PARENTS...
DEAR JOHNNY, WE'RE SO
PROUD OF YOU, CONGRATULATIONS
YOU'VE MADE IT!

YOU HEAR THAT, IDIOT?
YOU MADE IT.
CONGRATULATIONS!

THANK YOU, SIR

SHUT UP, GET THOSE KNEES UP!

THEN CAME THE
RDC

CADRE PLAY-TIME'S
OVER RATS! YOU
BELONG TO US NOW!

AFTER CADRE WEEK - WE SAW A STARTLING NEW
DEVELOPMENT... **WORMING!!**

WHERE ARE YOU ALL GOING?

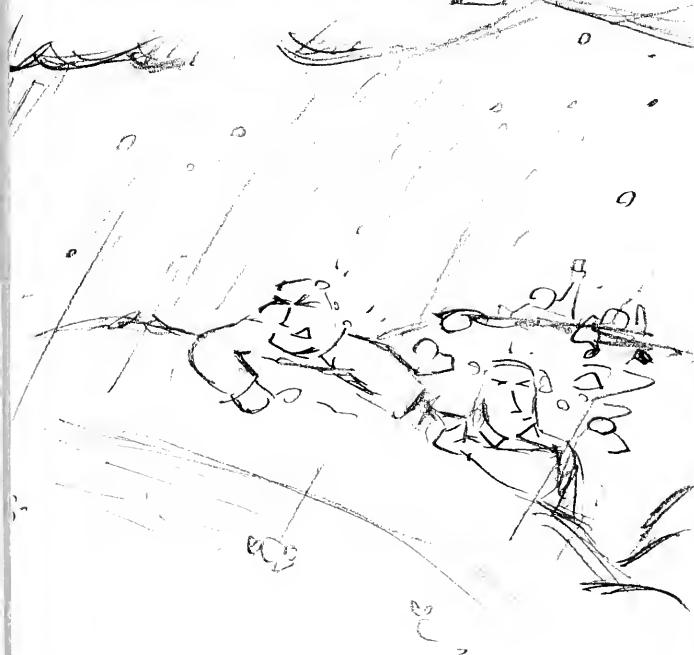
Well, looks like it's
just you! Start
PUSHING!!

CARTERBURY CLUB/SIR
LATE TRACK PRACTICE, SIR BAPTIST STUDENT UNION
CHAPLAIN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST, SIR...

There was RAT Challenge, which WAS Fun... and RDC, which WASN'T.



FINALLY, BREAKOUT CAME... AND WE CRAWLED UP A MUDDY HILL, WHILE IT SNOWED. BUT WE MADE IT... AND BECAME...



4TH CLASS MEN!
BUT REALITY SET IN AGAIN...



THIRD CLASS YEAR WAS A
CHANGE OF PACE... IT GAVE
SOME OF US A NEW ROLE IN LIFE

AS A CADRE CORPORAL (FRESHMAN
DEVELOPMENTAL COUNSELOR) I WAS
GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO INFLUENCE
THE LIVES OF 45 NEW CADETS

YOU ARE PATHETIC! WHY ARE
YOU AT MY SCHOOL? YOU'RE
TO UGIT TO BE HERE ANYWAY!
DON'T LOOK AT ME, QUIT CUTTING
YOUR EYES! GET SOME DISCIPLINE
IN YOUR NASTY BODY! YOU
DON'T BELONG HERE!

STOOP MONKEYS!

RANK.. NONE
FRIENDS.. NONE
GPA..... 1.0(-)

ACADEMICS HIT
HARD 3RD CLASS
YEAR...

STOP - RAT! WE
NEED TO YELL AT YOU
INSTEAD OF STUDYING!

PLUS... WHEN YOU ARE A THIRD, NO ONE LIKES YOU ANYWAY....

SIR, I SLEPT THROUGH CLASS

10-6-AND 39! DO
US A FAVOR AND
DROWN YOURSELF IN
THE SINK WHEN
YOU GET BACK TO
YOUR ROOM!

YOU YELLED AT MY RAT! YOU'RE
UP TO THE GC!

SECOND CLASS YEAR started off Great,
Primarily because I was of Legal
Age, and The City of Lexington's 3
Drinking Establishments were more than
happy to help...

BUT THE RATLINE
SEEMED A LOT MORE
BORING...

GIMME ANOTHER DRINK,
SWEETHEART.
Keep 'em coming!

Sure, You're Partially
Funding my Grad School!



IN FACT, MOST VME ACTIVITIES Began to move to the Back Burner as

2004's RING FIGURE approached!

SO AMERICA'S COLLEGE
RENTS in The SOUTH
Spring from Academic
Society, and The
economy was
further bolstered
BY A WARTIME
BUILDUP...

THEN THE WEEK ARRIVED...
AND THE PRE-GAMING BEGAN

Well, OUR 0800 CP IS
OVER - LET'S GO DRINKING!

Ha -
OF Course!





Unfortunately, Reality Set in yet again,
 And the Class of '04 realized that life
 wasn't really that different now that we
 had our rings...

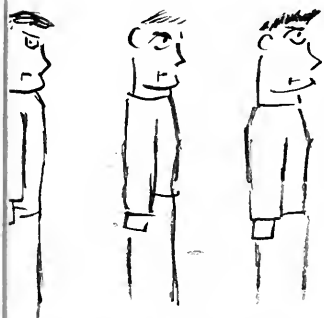
Finally, we got our rings!
 The weekend was
 fantastic, and no one will
 ever forget it!

... But, just when
 we'd thought
 we had seen
 it all before..

THE HORROR OF
ROTC
 Emerged...



THERE WAS MORNING PT..



I'm gonna make you all
into good officers- But I
HATE OFFICERS! Especially LTs!
You all suck! Now we're
gonna do a run at an
old-man-pace! But first
I'm gonna sit here and
yell at you for 20 more minutes...
Where was I.. Oh yeah- you suck!



THERE WAS FTX..



And there were the
NEVER-ENDING
ARMY LABS!



Who can tell me what
color blue represents on
a map?

LOSING...
CONSCIOUSNESS..



FINALLY, FIRST CLASS YEAR CAME, AND
WE WERE PUT "IN CHARGE" OF THE CAPS!

OK, I DID YOUR
TRAINING MATRIX,
WROTE THE SCRIPT FOR
MARCH-IN, AND CHOSE
YOUR GC, NOW GO TRAIN!

YES, SIR!

OK, RAIS; IF ANY OF YOU
FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE ABOUT
EXECUTING THE TIRE SWING, SEE
THE STRESS COUNSELORS. FEEL
FREE TO LET YOUR
EMOTIONS FLOW...

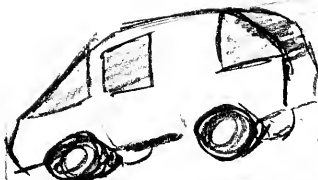


BUT WE DID GET RAIS...

AND FCP...

?

URG... GET LAUNDRY...
... SHINE SHOES... YAWN...
CLEAN ROOM...



JM

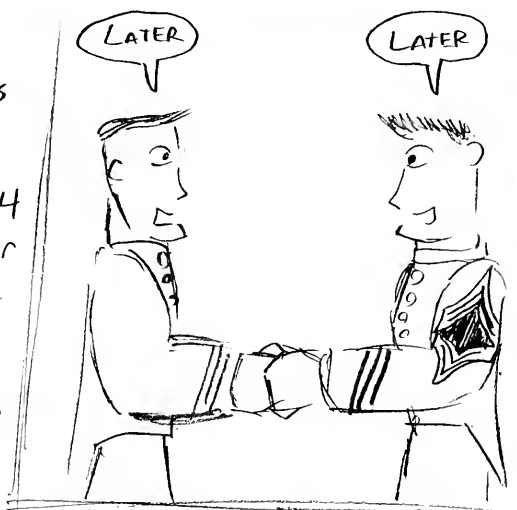
BUT GRADUATION WAS INEVITABLE (FOR SOME...)



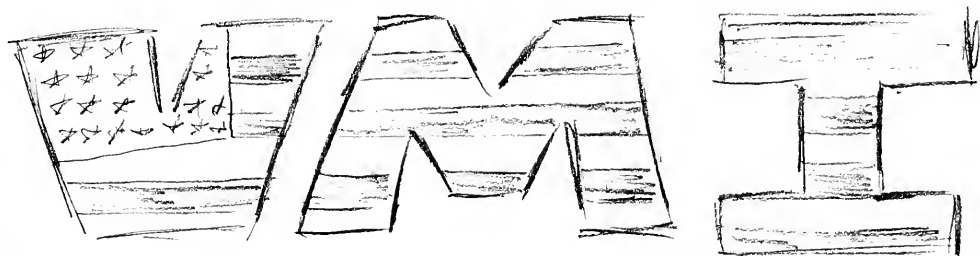
...

?

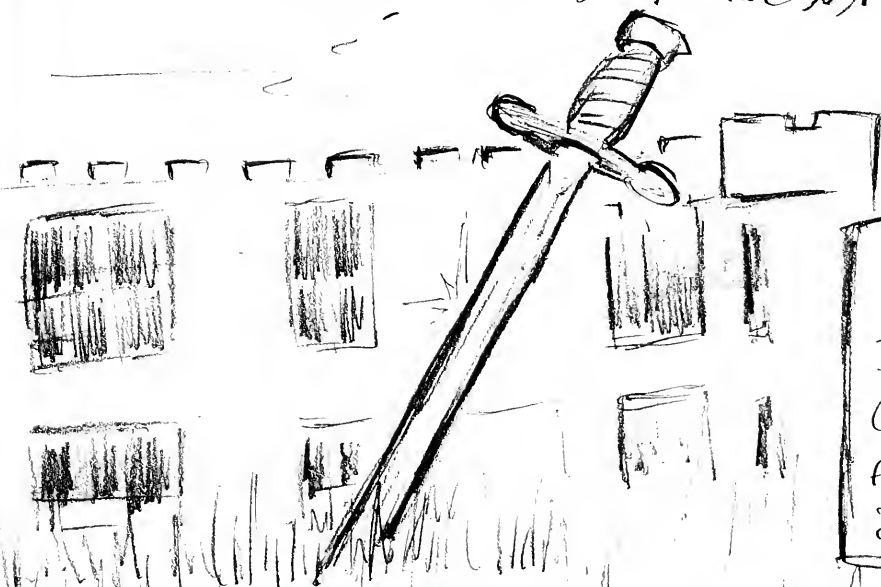
LEAVING VMI IS
JUST AS STRANGE AS
OUR STAY HERE HAS
BEEN. THE PAST 4
YEARS HAVE HAD THEIR
UPS AND DOWNS, BUT
EVERYONE WHO GOT
THROUGH DID IT WITH
THE HELP OF THEIR
BROTHER RATS



SO GOODBYES ARE
TOUGH, AND SOME
GRADUATES ARE HEADING
OFF TO WAR. OTHERS
TO FAR REACHES OF
THE GLOBE.
HOWEVER, DISTANCE
CANNOT EVER BREAK
THE BONDS
FORMED AT...



CONGRATS 2004! WE WISH YOU THE BEST IN THE FUTURE!



WRITTEN
AND
DRAWN BY
CHARLES MUNN
FOR THE
2004 BOMB

THE 2004 FIRST CLASS POLL

WINNERS

Most likely to succeed... Matt York
Best leader... Matt York
Most intellectual... Dan Cragg
Most popular... Chuck Karamon
Best looking... Libbi Olson
First to marry... Stan Kielczewski
Most likely to run for office... Jaden Lowry
Best nickname... Special K
Best Bob Downey... Bob Downey
Best RDC rep/officer... Ross Garnett
Best OGA rep/officer... Jimmy Palmer
Best dressed... Joel Andrus
Most likely to be a superhero... Clark Laster or Mike Gregory
Favorite class officer... Tim Price
Favorite tac/ Commandant staffer... SGM Neel
Favorite professor Colonel Badgett
Biggest surprise... Tony Peters, National Boxing Champ
Funniest... Chuck Karamon
Most valuable... Charlie Munn
Most respected... Dave Poldiak
Most likely to make General... Rod James
Best Cadet Captain... Jaden Lowry
Best Private... Sean McElroy

LOSERS

First to bald... Andrew Cunningham
Craziest professor... Captain Riester
Biggest tool... Josh Powers
Most arbitrary... LTC Levenson
Most conservative... VMI Corps of Cadets
Most liberal... VMI Faculty
Most bitter... Ryan Consaul
Most confined to Barracks... Mike Corso
Most likely to return as a tac... George Cushman
Smelliest... Nate Joslyn
Most intense... Ross Garnett
Most corrupt... Baseball Team
Never ever to marry... Major Fridley
Most unpopular... Colonel Hutchings
Most likely to be shot in the back by his own men... Josh Powers
Most likely to be court martialed... Brandon Smith
Most likely to become a giant tattoo... Jared Parker
Most likely to let rank go to his head... Josh Powers
Most likely to be drunk in Barracks... Tim Price
Most likely to bone his BRs... SGM Neel and Eric Hepfer
Biggest ego... Rich Connorroe



REPORTING OF DELINQUENCIES 30 - 31 OCTOBER 1975

SPECIAL REPORTS

Blank, JE
Borojevich, C
Cafarella, PT

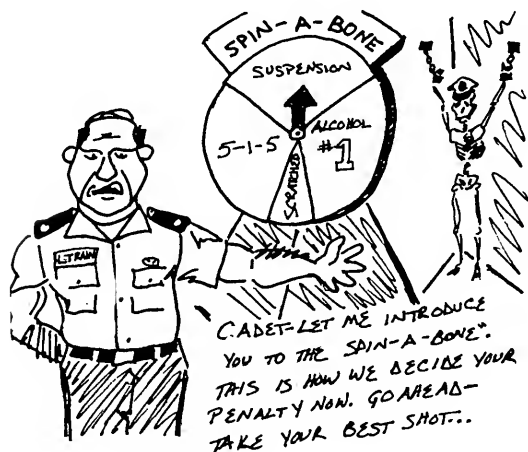
Crim, DC
Dickerson, LW
Doerr, DR
Faist, JA
Hammond, GJ
Hutchings, ED

Kelly, DG
Leavitt, JE
Manning, WW
McCourt, TP

Morris, BC
Parry, DG
Pleasants, JE
Replogle, XX TJ
Smith, DK
Stamley, VM
Stevens, NS

Stranger, JC

Failure to walk ratline, 30 Oct
Failure to sign up for room confinement, 30 Oct
Creating a disturbance in barracks during evening CQ, 30 Oct
Not all right visiting evening CQ, 30 Oct
Failure to inform self of status, 31 Oct
Creating a disturbance in barracks during evening CQ, 30 Oct
Creating a disturbance in barracks during evening CQ, 30 Oct
Absent PT's, 30 Oct
Disrespect to a member of the guard; i.e., telling him to "shut up" 31 Oct; also to a cadet captain
Not all right 4th CP, 31 Oct
Not all right evening CQ, 30 Oct
Creating a disturbance in barracks during evening CQ, 30 Oct
Trifling with a Rat Co.; i.e., unauthorized entry into Rat Co. ranks marching up from Mess Hall, 30 Oct
Creating a disturbance in barracks during evening CQ, 30 Oct
Creating a disturbance in barracks during evening CQ, 30 Oct
Missed interview with teacher, 28 Oct
Failure to sign up for room confinement, 30 Oct
Failure to walk Ratline, 30 Oct
Creating a disturbance in barracks during evening CQ, 30 Oct
Imp procedure as recorder; i.e., failure to check All Up on OCMNI slip, 31 Oct
Shower shoes under table, shoe rack in disorder, books on table and towel imp displayed, 31 Oct



Support Blue Book Admendment MCVII



DO NOT BREAK THE RULES!
No more PTs, your family receives a beating.

Support Family Style Dining



"I love family style dining" - Pvt. Smith

The Main Course of Family Style Dining



DON'T WASTE IT!

Upper Classmen will only get what
the Rats do not eat.

Cut backs are a direct result of the building project



The Top Ten Questions About the New Post

10. Corps: "Where's the bar?"
9. Cadet Newspaper/Bomb: "Where did our building go?"
8. OGA: "Any chance of male-female barracks?"
7. Hutch: "Can we codify an extension to my house?"
6. Hammond: "Why is my office in the basement?"
5. Football Team: "New mess hall!?"
4. Corps: "How 'bout a new commandant too?"
3. Alumni: "Can anyone think of a better name than 'New New Barracks'?"
2. L-Train: "Why can't I get sharks with frig'n laser beams attached to their foreheads?"
1. Hutch: "Where's the beef?"

Arriving on the top of the
 ist of new Institue building
 project, General H Binford
 Peay announced plans on
 Feb 23, '04 to build a new
 nd innovative "Death
 Star" on post. "Nothing can
 top VMI now." Said Peay.
 speaking of his "Vision
 039," "We will keep all
 ne local systems in line
 ough fear- fear of this
 attle station." General
 Green, a member of the
 nstitute Planning Com-
 mittee, quickly pointed out
 at "the ability to destroy
 planet is insignificant next
 o the power of the Force."
 Peay found his lack of faith
 disturbing." (cont. below)



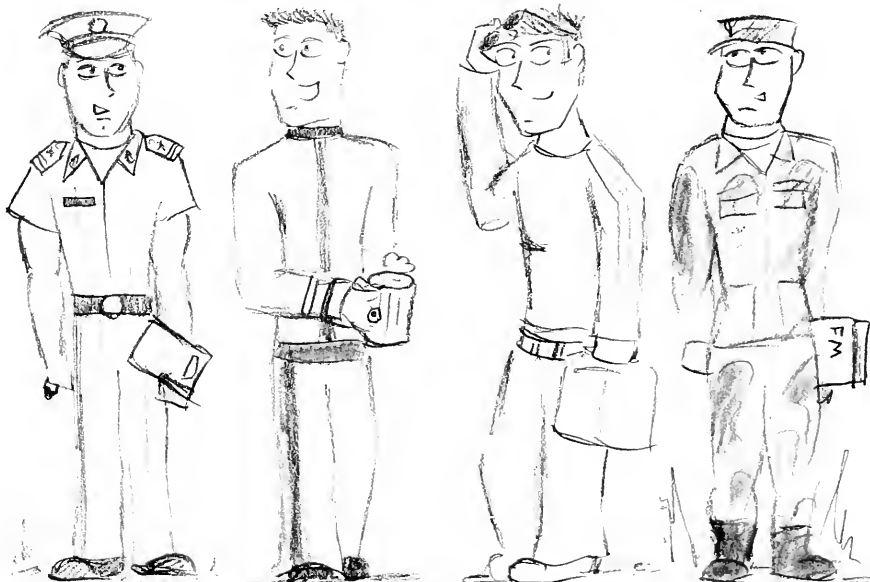
Rat
 4th Stoop Library
 Haircut, shined
 shoes
 Yes sir, no sir

4th Classman
 The X
 Bathrobes to the point
 of idiocy
 Whatever, we had a
 hard Ratline

3rd Class Cadre
 4th stoop
 Haircut, shined shoes
 Strain! Hey, you
 - stop!

3rd Class Dirt Bag
 NCAA lockerroom. L-
 Train's office
 Tennis Shoes. Stained
 clothing
 Quit being a jerk, dude.
 I'm on permit

Peay dismissed all futher
 questions, and insisted
 that all allegations a few
 extremists have expressed
 about the Death Star's reac-
 tor core were unfounded.
 There's an opening in the
 Death Star's main shaft
 that leads to the core,"
 Green pointed out. "If a
 small rebel ship were to
 somehow break through
 the deflector shield and
 enter the shaft, it's possible
 it could hit the reactor core
 with a single, well-placed
 proton torpedo shot and
 destroy the entire space
 station." Experts however,
 scoff at Green's theory,
 dismissing such a shot as
 a million to one."



2nd Class Tool
 1st class tool's room
 Haircut, shined shoes
 They really listen to us

2nd Class Barfly
 Palms, Spanky's, Salerno's, etc.
 Grey Blouse (next year too)
 Hey baby, check out the ring

1st Class Escapee
 Anywhere except VMI
 Civies, occasionally
 VMI uniforms
 Taking a day

1st Class Contracted Cadet
 Kilbourne Hall
 BDUs
 I'm busy AGAIN
 this weekend

IN MEMORIAM



Members of *The Cadet* and *The Bomb* staffs mourned the tragic loss on Firday, January 16th of a faithful companion, diligent worker, and dear friend. The Mr. Coffee model C-823 percolating coffee maker, was struck by fate's cruel hand during fall semester's finals' week. "The best laid plans of mice and men oft go astray," *Cadet* Entertainment Editor Chuck Karamon said, "leaving us naught but grief and pain for promised joy." Karamon then added, "**KAAAAAAHHH-HHNNNNNN!!!!!!**"

Mr. Coffee, who had been purchased at an S-4 sale seven years back, was always trusted to brew the most delicious and succulent coffee, without question, always doing his duty. The saddened Pub Frat announced that they "struggled mightily to right the listing ship, but were ultimately destined to go to a far better place." The incident that tore Mr. Coffee asunder involved moving the table that Mr. Coffee was resting upon the table to block the door to the T.V. room, in which John Noonan and Chris Johnson were watching a movie. Mr. Coffee was sadly still plugged in.

"Exault O shores and ring, O bells," Karamon said, "but I with mournful tread walk the deck my Mr. Coffee lies, fallen cold and dead."

As members of the staff went through this hard time, Major Fridley offered some words of condolences. "Out out brief candle!" Fridley said. "Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player, that struts and frets his hour upon the stage, and is then heard no more. It is a tale told by a fool, full of sound and furry, signifying nothing."

Mr. Coffee, you will be missed.

ÜBER-DYKE

I have come to believe that the dress clothing isn't dressy enough. Just like mother-in-laws, alcohol and narcotics, we eventually build up a tolerance to even the highest quality uniforms, so we here at the *The Cadet* and *The Bomb* staffs took it upon ourselves to create the newest and best in military fashion. We call it Über-Dyke.

Über-Dyke is normally worn daily. This uniform consists of Old Corps White Blouse, kilt, officer's belt, woolies (never white ducks), five breast plates, white cross belt, sword, light calvary saber, black shoes, rat challenge t-shirt, wool cape, and "Krazy-Ivan-Bomber" hat.

The photo on the left depicts the frontal view of Über-Dyke. Notice that the sash comes across the right collarbone halfway between the neck and the shoulder. The sash should avoid riding up the neck and should also avoid being either too loose or too tight. When the cross belt is properly worn, the top edge of the sash should not be seen. Four of the breast places will be worn where the cape cuts across the body; the fifth will



be concealed by the cape in the memory of Jonathan Daniels '61. The officer's belt is worn approximately four inches below the waist line snugly between the sash and belt. Don't forget the "Krazy Ivan Bomber" hat. The photo on the right depicts the left profile of the Über-Dyke. Notice when the saber is carried the left arm is bent ninety degrees. The cape is also pulled back over the left shoulder.

In order to fill the uniform void we created Über-Dyke. After the prototype passed with flying colors, an entire Über-Dyke line was put into production: 5,500 units of Über-Dyke will be ready for use in the fall of 2004. This shall provide each cadet with no less than four Über-Dyke uniforms.



MAY - JUNE, LTC LEVANSO'S OFFICE



THE VALIANT
STAFF OF THE CABET
NEWSPAPER ATTEMPT TO
GET THEIR PERMIT
APPROVED IN ADVANCE!

THESE PUNKS
AIN'T GETTIN'
NOTHIN'!!

LITTLE DID THEY
KNOW, THE
ADVENTURE OF
THEIR LIVES WAS
ABOUT TO BEGIN...

THE CABET PRESENTS THE QUEST FOR THE PERMIT

OUR HEROES

SO, UH...
YOU'LL LOOK IT
OVER, RIGHT,
SIR?

SUMMER

ZZZ... YOU'RE BORED... ZZZ
ZZZ... SAME IN MY OFFICE
ZZZ



OF COURSE, I'LL
HAVE THE WHOLE
SUMMER TO LOOK IT
OVER

SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK, COL HANALD?



I'M THE BUSIEST
MAN ON POST. I
DON'T HAVE TIME TO
READ YOUR PERMIT. NOW
EXCUSE ME, I HAVE A
YARD'S WORTH OF
HELICOPTER E-MAILS TO
COMPOSE!



NO, GENERAL
BURNING IS IN
SAND PHOTO
SUNSHINE KISSING
SHOWER, HE
SEAT SEE 'HU'



NO, GENERAL
BURNING IS IN
SAND PHOTO
SUNSHINE KISSING
SHOWER, HE
SEAT SEE 'HU'

WAIT A MINUTE, YOU'RE
FROM THE CABET NEWSPAPER?

SEIZE THEM!

DON'T LET THEM
GET AWAY, \$100
TO THE MAN/WOMAN
WHO BRINGS IN THEIR
SCALPS!!



YAAAAA!
HELP!!



AUGUST, 2002

OUR BLOKE EDITORS
RETURN EARLY FOR THE
PAPER. ONLY TO FIND
THEMSELVES LOCKED
IN MORTAL COMBAT
WITH LTC LEVANSO
OVER THE NEWSPAPER
PERMIT...

IT SEEMED THAT ALL HOPE
WAS LOST...



I'M NOT
TRYING TO CONSOLE
YOU GUYS, BUT
IF YOU PLEASANTLY
THAT I DON'T LIKE,
I'LL PUT YOU ON
CONFINEMENT!
MWAHAHAHA!

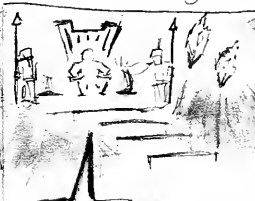


IT'S OVER,
WE'LL NEVER
GET THE
PERMIT APPROVED

DON'T GIVE
UP YET, I
HAVE A PLAN.
WE GOT A BUNCH
OF OTHER
PEOPLE TO SAY
WE CAN IT, THEN
LEVANSO WILL
HAVE TO APPROVE
IT!

SO OUR HEROES WENT FORTH
WITH THE PERMIT, AND
RAILED SUPPORTERS TO THEIR
CAUSE, BUT THE GOING WAS NOT EASY...

IT'S SO
CLOSED IT JUST
MAYBE WORK!



O, MIGHTY
REGIMENTAL COMMANDER,
WILL YOU HEAR MY
PLEA FOR THE
FUTURE OF THE
NEWSPAPER?

VERY WELL, I WILL HELP.
BUT DID YOU SHAVE
TODAY?



NOOOO



HMM... DAYS... WEEKS...
YEAR-THESE ARE LONG FINE.
I'LL SIGN IT.

WELL THAT GUY
OBVIOUSLY DIDN'T GRADUATE
FROM HERE...

AND SO OUR
INTREPID
EDITORS WERE
FINALLY READY
TO CONFRONT
LEVANSO, SURE
THAT THEIR
DEMANDS WOULD BE
MET...



SO... ARE YOU READY?
WHERE IS HE?

WOW -
A NEW
SHAKIRA
VIDEO!



ALAS, FATE WAS NOT ON THEIR
SIDE, AND LTC LEVANSO STUCK
DOWN THE MIGHTY PERMIT, WITH
OUR HEROES SEPARATED, THE DEFEAT
WAS INEVITABLE.

BUT EVEN IN DEFEAT,
HOPE REMAINED...

SHUT UP,
AT LEAST WE'RE
GETTING HAYDOWN
FOR THIS





BUT SIR - I'M THE BEST MAN AT MY DYKE'S WEDDING

THEN MAYBE YOUR DYKE SHOULD'VE PICKED SUCH A LOSER!

IT CAN DISAPPROVE PERMITS 20 TIMES FASTER THAN YOU!

Disapproved!
Disapproved!
Disapproved!

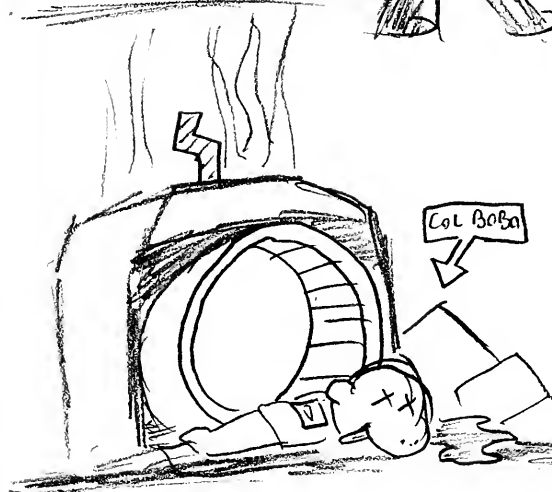
L-TRAIN
Permitrow

MAN! THAT NEW GUY IS A JERK!



WELL IT LOOKS LIKE A MONKEY IN A TREADMILL CAN'T DO MY JOB!

AT LEAST IT WASN'T ME IN THERE!



DONORS



JACKSON

DR. & MRS. ROBERT ANDERSON
MR. & MRS. LAWRENCE G. STAAT

MARSHALL

MAJOR MARY A. DELLINGER
DALE M. ALLISON

PRESTON

COLONEL FRANCIS BUSH
MARION & JOAN BRAWLEY
GARY & SUZANNE BILL



Congratulations Michael!!
Breakout 2004 was one
of many days that you have
made us proud,,,We wish
you continued success in
achieving all your goals!
Love, Mom, Dad & Jennifer

Congratulations!!

Emanuel CiudadReal

We are so proud of
you!!

Congratulations to the
Class of 2004



VMI Dining Hall

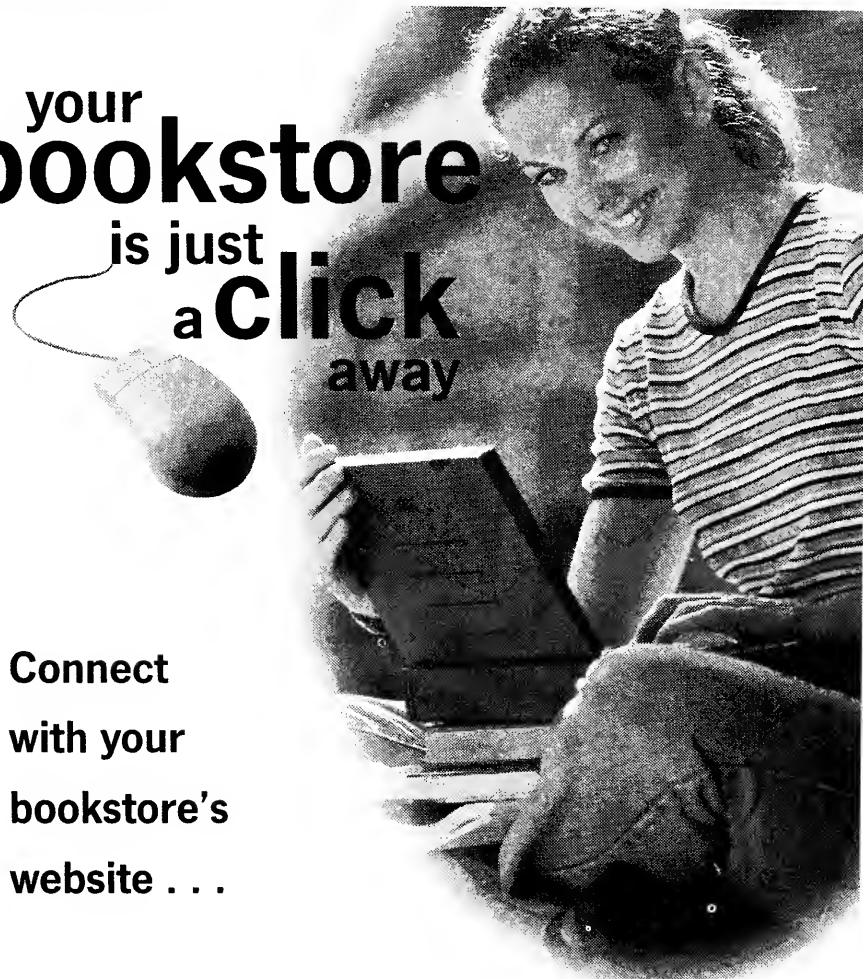
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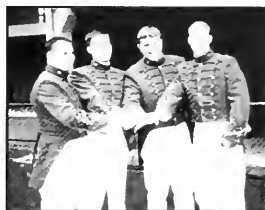
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Lexington, VA 24450
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STEPHEN M. WALKER, II

From Matriculation...



To Ring Figure...



Your mother & little sister at
New Market...



Your greatest fan,
your
big sister...

Rat year roommates...



Your dyke,
John Pettry, '01



Your grandfather's
roommate,
E.J. Laughorn, '31



From the past...



Stephen M. Walker, '31

To the present day...



Stephen M. Walker, II, '01

You have honored your grandfather's memory. You
respected a generation you didn't know. You remained faithful and steadfast.
Your parents are proud of you and admire you for who you are.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations!!



Brice Lanning Strickland '04

Your purpose, persistence, and perserverance
let you meet the challenge of VMI.
We are so proud of your accomplishments.

Mom, Dad, Jeff, Ashely, Grandma/Grandpa Strickland, Grandma/
Grandpa Durnal

"What is right for one soul may not
be right for another. It may mean
having to stand on your own and
do something strange in the eyes of
others. But do not be daunted. Do
whatever it is because you know
the truth within it is right for you."

Eileen Caddy



117 S. E. Bordner
Lee's Summit, MO 64063-3350

Phone: (816) 246-5188
Fax: (816) 246-7022

David P. Northcraft '73 --- President

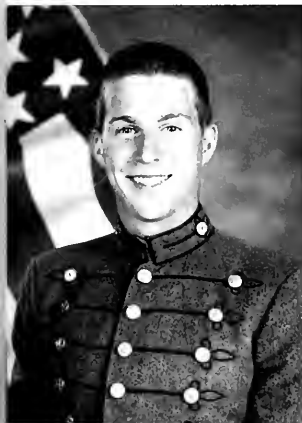
**Life eternal...experienced through
God the Father. However eternal
life is also experienced through
the legacy of people of great
character and moral stature,
through the lives that they have
touched, and impressions made.
May God be with you and your
Brother Rats throughout the
years to come. Your mother and
I love and are proud of you son!**

Congratulations Daniel,

We are so proud of you. You always did
like a challenge. Good luck in the future. I
know good things will come your way.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Joe

**Congratulations
Joel, Brad, and Dan!
With Gratitude and Best Wishes,
The Czupryna Family**



Families, much like mountains, reflect the beauty of time and history. Through the many layers, we discover how the past has helped shape the present. With every generation, the mountain grows and changes. Once in a while, the past is mirrored in the face of the future.

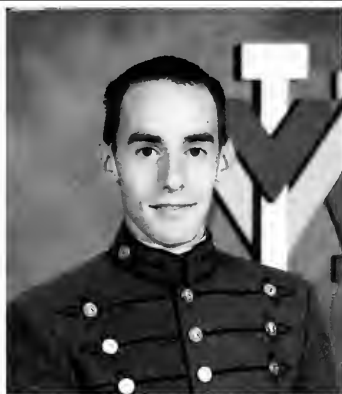
Under the appointment of Sen. Carter Glass, Andrew Hunter Land matriculated at the Virginia Military Institute in 1886 and graduated Class of 1890 with a degree in Chemistry and Physics. He went on to teach Math, Drawing and Tactics from 1890-91 at VMI. Andrew became the Mayor and City Treasurer of Bluefield, WV. He also served as the Administrator of Solid Fuels under President Woodrow Wilson and was a member on the Kitchen Cabinet. His deep respect for German science inspired him to create and build the first sewage treatment plant in the United States. Later he moved his family to Feather Falls, CA, and became President of Feather River Pine Mills. He died on July 26, 1953.

Due to financial hardships, there was a four year period where VMI went without issuing a class ring or yearbook- the Class of 1890 included. For this reason, A.H. Land and other cadets during this time never received recognition in the archives. Now, 114 years

later, Andrew's great-great grandson, Bryan Robert Gould ('04) will graduate a VMI cadet with a Bachelor of Science degree.



The Gould/Gardner/Land family is so honored and proud to be part of VMI history and congratulates all the VMI grads past, present and future.



Cadet Sean McElroy

CONGRATULATIONS!

While so many of us were home - You stood the VMI test.

While many of us were attending home functions - You stood the VMI test. Though you saw your family back home, often needing your guidance - You stood the VMI test. As we and your fellow countrymen slept soundly - You stood the VMI test. Sean, your family is here to say, Sir, You stand with great men. You have accomplished

Mom, Dad, Briana and Family



In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership with the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that "He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." Phil. 1:4-6
Congratulations! We're proud of you.

Love,
Mom and Dad



**Congratulations
Charles R. Munn, IV**

**You are a big
wheel now!**



Class of '04

**We're so
proud of you!**





Michael:

Congratulations on this most special day! During your four years at the Institute, you have come so very far,

accomplished so much and made us so very proud of you. Following in the footsteps of VMI alumni since 1839, along with your fellow BRs, you truly have proven that "You may be whatever you resolve to be."

We know that you and your BRs will face many challenges in the future. We know just as surely that each of you will rise to all of these challenges and will make our state, nation and world a better and safer place for all mankind.

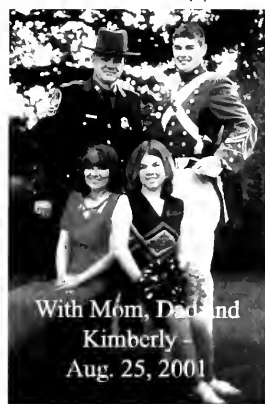
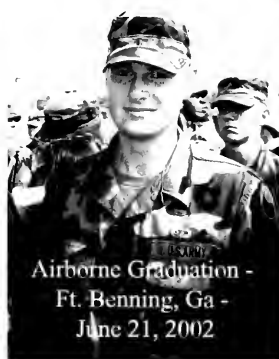
General Robert E. Lee once said: "*Do your duty in all things. You cannot do more. You should never do less.*" Like those brave cadets crossing "The Field of Lost Shoes" at New Market 140 years ago today, we know that with God's strength and guidance that you and your BRs will do your duty despite the dangers and adversities that you will face. We wish you God's protection and richest blessings!



Love,

Mom, Dad and Kimberly

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths.
Proverbs 3:5&6



Eagle Scout
March 26, 2000

Eric Kupper - '07

The key to happiness is having dreams-----

The key to success is making your dreams come true.

Congratulations on Breakout!

We are proud of you!

Mom, Dad, Jared & Jordan

William Konrad '07

If the sharpest memories are made of experiences that shake and shape your life, we know this 'Rat Year is one you'll never forget.

We are so proud of you!

Love, Mom & Dad

CONGRATULTIONS, GREG!

RING FIGURE

ANOTHER BIG MILESTONE.

FROM LED TO LEAD.

WE LOVE YOU, MOM, DAD AND GRETA



Zach,
Congratulations on completing
your degree in four years!
We are so proud of you!
We admire your spirit, determination
and enthusiasm for life.

We love you always!

Mom, Dad, Steph,
Jonner and Chessie

Congratulatoins little brother! We
love you! Your Big Sis, Big Bro &
Katie

Keep it going, Baby!

CONGRATULATIONS!

FRANK I. TOOMEY CLASS OF '04



WE ARE VERY PROUD OF YOU!

Love Mom and Dad



Ed,

Congratulations on graduation.

We are so very proud of you.

**Love,
Mom, Dad, Anne & Uncle Joe**

*YOU HAVENT ENDED YOUR JOURNEY, BUT HAVE
STARTED A PATH TO YOUR DESTINATION*



John Bradford Haywood 2004

*Do not follow where the path may lead. Go, instead,
where there is no path and leave a trail*

Ralph Waldo Emerson

You took the path less traveled, you endured all the challenges that VMI presented, and earned the right to wear THE ring. We are proud of you and your accomplishment.

Congratulations on graduation!

Love Mom and Dad

Dear Andy,

What a path you have
traveled! You came you saw you
conquered. Congratulations and
keep on truckin!

Love,

Dad, Jenny

Laura, Kevin, Sasha and Bessie



Love

Mom, Dad, Justin, Bear
and Bree

Then and now.
All the times in
between. We are
so proud of your
accomplishments.
Congratulations
on your
graduation and
commission.



Benjamin Kilgore Hassell

I SAID TO THE MAN

who stood at the gate of the year, Give me a light that I may
tread safely in to the unknown. And he replied, Go out into the
darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall
be to you better than light and safer than a known way! So I
went forth and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the
night. And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of
day in the lone fast.

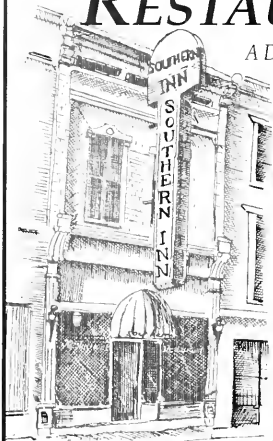
King George VI - 1939

Philippians 4:13

Love: Jessica, Anna Catlin, Mother, Daddy & Lady

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Congratulations on your "Ratline"!

Love,
Mom, Dad, Nicole & Tamara

RICHARD PETER LALOMIA



4 YEARS VMI TUITION \$\$\$\$

**CARE PACKAGES AND
"ENCOURAGEMENT"
FROM HOME**

\$\$\$

VMI DEGREE PRICELESS

**YOU KNEW YOU COULD AND YOU
DID!!! CONGRATULATIONS AND
MANY BLESSINGS RICH.**

YOU HAVE MADE US PROUD!

LOVE,
MOM, DAD & MARISA

Kyle Charles McAfee

Maybe you don't realize what a blessing you have always been. Probably you rarely consider the pride you bring to our family. We think about it every day. Congratulations on breaking out. You're on your way!

*Love,
Mom and Dad
Frica
Grandmother
Papa and Nana
Aunt Carol and Uncle Russ*



Congratulations, Vance '04

Remember:

All great and honorable actions are accompanied with great difficulties.

William Bradford
(1590-1657)

Love, Mom and Dad

Michael L. Flaherty

Dear Son,
Congratulations on a successful first year.
Your family is so proud of you!

Love,
Dad, Mom and Amanda
Nannie & Poppa

I knew that what I willed to do, I could do.
-Stonewall Jackson

Wayne -

We are very proud of you. You have worked hard to realize your dreams. We know God will continue to bless you as you continue your journey on "the road less traveled." We Love You!

Mom, Dad, Sarah & Jake

Congratulations Charlie!

"Changes in latitudes, changes in attitudes, nothing remains quite the same. If we couldn't laugh we would all go insane . . ." Charlie, keep laughing and you will be okay! We are so proud and happy that you and all of your BRs got *The RING!!!*

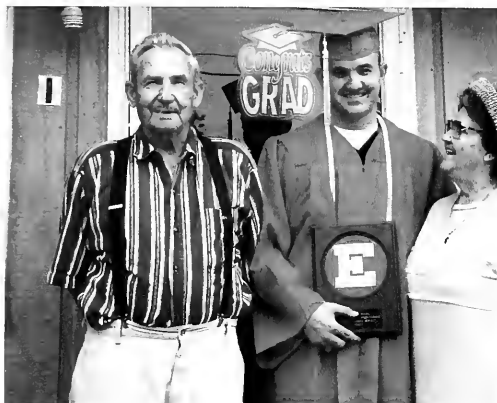
Love from Mom, Dad, Sarah,
Lindsay, and Ian



Congratulations Justin Roberts

You have come a long way from 3 lbs. to now!

Best wishes for continued success!



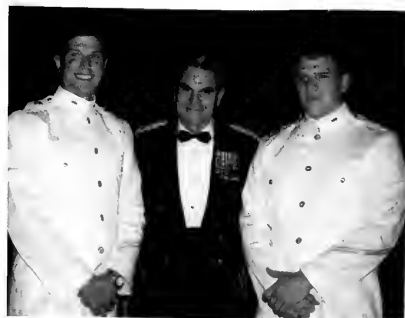
From Your
Extended Family & Friends



CLASS OF 2005



RING FIGURE



MICHAEL GRANT URANKO JR.

Mick,

It's hard to believe that you are graduating from college and being commissioned as a 2nd lieutenant in the United States Army. It just seems like yesterday that you took your first step holding on to that puzzle piece. Now the whole puzzle has come together for you. You have achieved so much for yourself and your future. You certainly took "the road less traveled" in choosing to attend VMI. We know that it was a difficult challenge for you, but we believe the knowledge and ideals that you gained will lead you straight down the road to success.

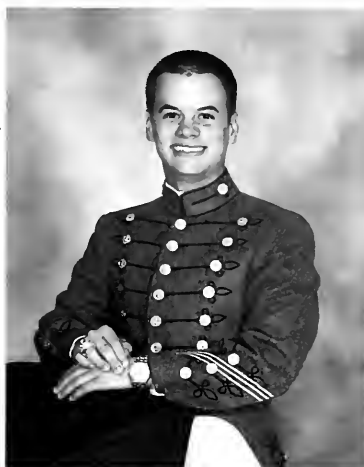
We are so proud of your accomplishments. Our love and support will always be with you.

With love and pride,
Mom and Dad

Mick,

Congratulations on your graduation from college and commission in the U.S. Army. I'm so proud of you and wish you success in your future.

With love,
Your Sister, Nicole



Mick - Our favorite grandson and his Pop's pride and joy -

Others might have had their doubts about how he'd handle his future, but not his late grandfather, Grant.

His very words were, "That kid's going to make us proud. I know it. I have all the faith in the world in him."

Know he's here in spirit looking down on you with much pride. Thank you dear grandson for not letting him down.

With much pride,
Your loving Grandmother Uranko





pineland 03



William B Bell '67 Award



John Ryd Award



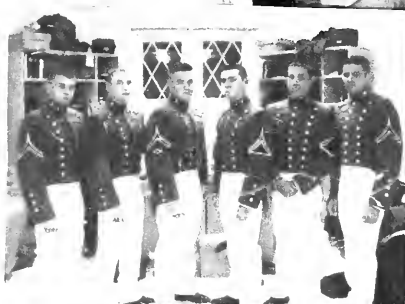
FTX 02



Southern Bolivia



Yes I am a local...



Ring Figure 02



NYC 03



DEAR JEFF,
THANK GOD FOR MEN LIKE YOU,
READY AND WILLING TO TAKE CARE
OF THE REST OF US. YOUR FAMILY
LOVES AND ADMIRES YOU VERY
MUCH.

ALL OUR LOVE
MOM & DAD
HEATHER & CLIF
LIBBY & WES



With a future so bright, you gotta have shades...
 Cambridge, here he comes – 112 Pubs to conquer!
 We love you and are all so proud of you, Sean

Your family, friends, and pets (past and present)



GRADUATION ALREADY !



CONGRATULATIONS JASON. YOU DID IT, 1, 2, 3,
 JUST LIKE YOU SAID YOU WOULD. RAT LINE,
 RING AND SHEEPSKIN. YOU HAVE WORKED
 HARD AND YOU HONOR THE INSTITUTE, YOUR
 FAMILY AND ALL WHO KNOW YOU. MAY
 YOU ALWAYS BE THE MAN YOU ARE THIS DAY.
 and then he told them, " You are to go into all the
 world and preach the Good News to everyone,
 everywhere. " MARK: 16- 15
 LOVE, MOM, DAD AND CHELSEA



CONGRATULATIONS

ANDY

WE ARE PROUD OF YOU

*NOT EVERYONE HAS HAD THE OPPORTUNITIES YOU HAVE HAD
EARNING YOUR EAGLE AWARD
SAILING THE GREAT HIGH SEAS*

*NOT EVERYONE CAN WALK THE ROAD YOU HAVE JUST FINISHED
THE RATLINE
THE NOTHING YEAR (THIRD)
RING FIGURE WITH YOUR BEST FRIEND*

*NOT EVERYONE CAN WALK THE ROAD YOU ARE NOW STARTING ON
ENSIGN FRAZIER
MARRIAGE*

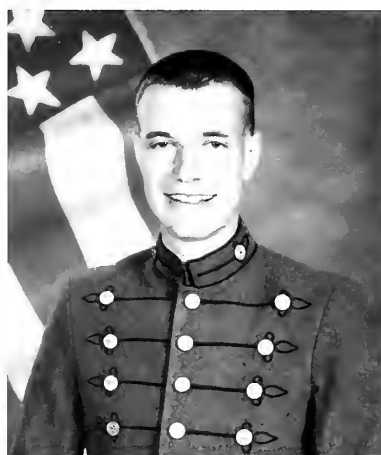
*YOU HAVE CHOSEN THE ROADS LESS TRAVELED
AND FOUND SUCCESS
CONTINUE TO AIM HIGH*

GOD BLESS AND KEEP YOU

LOVE GRANDMA, DAD, MOM

From Two to Twelve to Twenty-Two

Congratulations Keith



Your faith in the Lord
has kept you on the straight and narrow path.

We are proud of you,

Love,
Dad, Mom, Peter Matthew, Ryan &
VA Grays Fife and Drum Corp.

Jeremiah 29:11



ERIC ARTHUR BRUNS
VMI - Class 2007



YOU HAVE
WORKED HARD TO
GET TO THIS POINT
WE WISH YOU THE
BEST AS YOU CON-
TINUE YOUR JOUR-
NEY AT VMI!

LOVE,
MOM, DAD,
GRAND DADDY
&
MAMMA

**CONGRATULATIONS
RYAN!**



Hamilton Lewis Bice

**Virginia Military Institute
Class of 2004**

Do not follow
where the path may lead
Go instead
where there is no path and leave a trail

Congratulations on your fine accomplishments,
and graduation from VMI, Bud. We love you, Mose!

Mom, Dad, Farrow, Jason and Isabella

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Cadet Thomas A. Largi, Jr.

Memories of *Ring Figure* for the
Class of 2005

*Your loved ones extend our best wishes for
your continued success.*



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**Congratulations to Cadet James R. White
and the class of 2005**



Hunter, Brant, James, Ian
Love from Mom, Dad and family



**Michael James Scott
Congratulations on your
graduation and commission.**

We are very proud of you!

God Bless our new 2LT.

Keep your eyes on Him!

Proverbs 3:5-6

**Love Dad, Mom, Brian, Kevin
and Trevor**

"MooBear, you are the Man!"



LOOK OUT WORLD! HERE COMES PORTER BRAWLEY, BRINGING ALL THE BEST A VMI MAN HAS TO OFFER - HONOR, INTEGRITY, TENACITY AND HEART - PLUS A GREAT SENSE OF HUMOR, FUN AND DEEP LOYALTIES.

GO PORTER!!

**WITH OUR LOVE,
GRANDDADDY (VMI '41) AND BELLE**



Dear Porter,

***I am so proud of you!
I love you so much and am so
proud to call you my brother.
Congratualtions on
graduating from VMI! You
have earned it!***

Mary

Porter,

Congratulations! You did it, but it is not all over - it has jus begun! You have become a great man, and an even greater brother. Good luck with whatever life brings you. I know you will do great!

Love, Your Brother,
Will

Dear Porter,
Graduating from VMI will become a defining moment in your life. Few, if any, occasion will be more important to you. I am very proud of you, and your ability to finish what you started.
With all my love,
Dad

Marion
Porter
Brawley, VI
—
VMI
2000-2004



Dear Porter,
I can't tell you how proud of you I am. You have accomplished something that many have failed. You should be very proud. You have grown into a man I respect, look up to and love. Maybe someday you'll tell me (and the rest of the family) all of your stories from VMI; I know there are stories!
I love you Porter, and I always will.
Love,
Frank

Dearest Port!
No more screaming Cadre; no more shaved head; no more wool in August; no more sleeping on wood! You have done it! You have risen to the long challenge, and have proven your character. I am so very proud of the fine man you've become!
With so much love,
Mom

CONGRATULATIONS KEVIN!!



We are so proud of you and your accomplishments. Your VMI days will live with you forever. We are especially proud that you will be serving your country in the Army during these difficult times.

Love always,
Mom, Dad, Sean, Ryan
and
Walkie-Talkie



JOSH WRIGHT

WHAT LIES BEHIND US AND WHAT LIES
BEFORE US ARE SMALL MATTERS
COMPARED TO WHAT LIES WITHIN US



LOVE MOM DAD HANNAH ERICA

Congratulations Joe and all your brother Rats!

Dreams really do come true! Never stop dreaming!

We are all very proud of you,

Love,

Dad, Mom, Stephanie, Scott

Aunt Claire and Aunt Connie



PETER B. KENT '04



CONGRATULATIONS!

We are so proud of you!

Press on with prudence,
humility and wisdom; God
will complete that which
He has begun!! We love you!!!!
And may your dreams come true!



BROTHERHOOD!





Though I walk through valleys low,
I will fear no evil
For the water stills my soul,
My heart will trust in you!



Jeremiah 17:8



2003



I Sam 2:30: He who
honors me, I will honor

MIZPAH!

The end
of the
matter
is
greater
than
its
beginning!



THE 2004 BOMB STAFF

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Colophon

The 2004 Bomb was published by Herff Jones, Inc. in Charlotte, North Carolina. Our Herff Jones rep was Mr. Steve Kent. Our CSA at the plant was Mr. Mark Plyer.

This is the 110th volume of *The Bomb*, and it contains 352 pages. It was created on Apple Macintosh computers using Adobe InDesign 2.0. Photographs were provided by staff members, VMI Sports Information, and Candid Color Photography, LTD. LTC Donna Weaver and Major Timothy Dowling were the advisors, and Daniel J. Cragg served as the Editor-in-Chief.

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MANAGING EDITOR: JOEL ANDRUS







FROM THE EDITOR

The Bomb is a task of Brobdingagian proportions, and in 110 years, not a single volume has been perfect. This volume is no exception. Countless hours were spent putting it all together, and it actually was completed on the day of graduation. This *Bomb* is also special because it is the first in recent memory to not be censored by the administration. General Peay put a lot of trust in me when he said "use your judgment." I hope he agrees with my judgment, or else this may be the first and last *Bomb* to not be censored. I never intended to use so many pictures with alcohol in them, but somehow a whole lot snuck into the book, but believe it or not, I did actually cut a lot of alcohol pictures after the Ring Figure and First Class sections were completed, and I exercised a lot of judgment on some other questionable pictures.



I would especially like to apologize for the Clubs section. I'm sure there are more clubs than are listed, but in the end, I could not make the clubs get their picture taken, nor could I force the club CICs to write copy for their organizations. I hope still that what you are holding in your hands is one of the best *Bombs* ever, and that it makes all future editors' jobs harder. This book was essentially created by Joel Andrus and me. Mike

Gregory almost single-handedly ran the business, with a little help with sales from Laura Mack. Amie-Anne Novak also did an outstanding job with the Ring Figure section, and David Bhatta took some really outstanding photos.



This book is first and foremost for my brother rats, then for the Corps, and then for the larger VMI community. I hope it has captured the quintessence of VMI, which is so hard to describe in words, but every cadet and alumnus understands immediately. *The 2004 Bomb* was meant to be an accurate, but humorous, historical record of the 2003-2004 academic year, not a work of VMI public relations propaganda, and I think it has soundly accomplished this mission.

It has been a long strange trip for me at



The infamous ring dropping incident.



endured all of your relationship drama. Have fun fighting fires and stay out of trouble. To Charlie – we built the cadet publications empire and have been confederates in countless scams to beat the system, and we succeeded every time. Good luck with your four years in the Army. To John, Chuck, Mike, Nate, Aaron, Reese, Shaun, Oliver, Dan, Larry, and the rest – you guys have made this year great. We may have played too much Halo, eaten too much pizza, and screwed around so much that we lowered our collective GPAs by several points, but I would never trade all the fun we had for better grades. To Amie-Anne and Laura – you are going to have a blast next year making *The 2005 Bomb*. I hope I have been able to pass on all my knowledge to you, so

VMI. I came here not knowing a thing about VMI, and I left as one of its strongest proponents. I am going to dearly miss the friends I have made here, especially those select few who consider themselves members of “Pub Frat.” I would especially like to thank BG Brower and Major Dowling for assisting in my intellectual development, as well as my intellectual equal, Nate Joslyn. To Joel – we have had a great four years rooming together. I could not have completed this book without you. We had a lot of fun creating *The Bomb*, and it’s too bad we can’t do this professionally. Who knows, maybe we’ll end up in publishing together. To Brad, my co-dyke and roommate of three years – we spent a lot of time getting worked out together in room 107 as rats; we survived the 324 disturbance, and I



you can create the excellent book I know you are capable of. Producing the yearbook is a difficult task, but it isn’t impossible, especially if you follow the first rule of *Bomb* editorship, “Never let academics get in the way of *The Bomb*.”

I leave the mother “I” with fond memories and no bitterness. It has been an incredible experience, and I would not trade it for the world. I guess Gordon Lightfoot put it best: “Now the thing that I call living is just being satisfied, and knowing I got no one left to blame.”

D. J. Cragg

Daniel J. Cragg
Editor-in-Chief, *The 2004 Bomb*



**"THE CLASS OF 2004
IS HEREBY RELIEVED
OF DUTY."**



